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France and the IMF Press Aid for Algeria

Risk Seen to Funds if Government Falls to Islamic Fundamentalists

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — As civil strife and a campaign of Islamic insurrection escalate in Algeria, the government of France and the International Monetary Fund are leading a behind-the-scenes effort to provide billions of dollars of fresh international aid and debt relief to the country's military-backed regime, Western officials and economists said.

Government and financial officials on both sides of the Atlantic described the campaign, which is being spearheaded by Michel Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, as potentially risky. Their main worry is that any new funds for Algeria could be at risk if Islamic fundamentalists were to take power.

The finance minister of a leading European country, who spoke on condition that he not be identified, said: "There is a great French concern and desire to support the present Algerian government, which is reflected in Camdessus's attitude. And the Algerian government has a pretty good economic adjustment program under way."

But when asked if it was advisable to proceed with fresh aid while civil conflict smolders, the finance minister added: "Of course it is risky; most certainly it is risky at a time like this."

In Washington, a government official said the Clinton administration had supported past IMF efforts in Algeria and was aware of current discussions about providing further money. "It doesn't make sense to pull the plug, but you've got to realize that the economic risks in Algeria are very high because of the political situation," the official said.

The financial stakes are high — some \$25 billion of outstanding foreign debt plus about \$15 billion of foreign investment, largely related to the energy sector. In addition, Algeria is Europe's

third-biggest supplier of natural gas, just behind Russia and Norway.

In April of last year, Mr. Camdessus took the lead in organizing a \$1 billion standby loan for Algeria. A senior IMF official in Washington with responsibility for Algeria's economic program said in an interview that an additional \$1 billion IMF loan could be in the offing once last year's credit is completed this March. He said this would depend on an economic review by the IMF.

France, meanwhile, which is Algeria's biggest trading partner, is providing Algiers with 6 billion francs (\$1.1 billion) a year of export credits. French exports to Algeria totaled 10.6 billion francs in the first 10 months of 1994, according to the CNPF, the French industrialists' federation.

Mr. Camdessus has also been encouraging separate financial relief such as the rescheduling in 1994 of \$5 billion of government debt by the Paris Club group of wealthy creditor nations. A further \$1 billion of loans coming due this year is also likely to be rescheduled, bankers and government officials said.

The IMF and France have also been working closely with Société Générale, the big French bank that is heading a committee of commercial banks which are owed \$4.7 billion, bankers and government officials in France said. Société Générale, and such other banks as Sakura Bank of Japan and Chase Manhattan of the United States, are discussing the prospect of an Algerian debt rescheduling that could cover at least \$1 billion of principal that will fall due in 1995.

Finally, both France and Mr. Camdessus have encouraged aid from the European Union, which last year pledged 150 million Ecu worth of loans and in December approved a further 250 million Ecu of aid.

Diplomats note that concern has

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VASSILIS BEHRASIS/REUTERS
A Chechen woman in Grozny scanning the sky Monday for Russian bombers.

North Korea Takes a Big Trade Step Toward U.S.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL — North Korea said Monday that it would lift restrictions on trade and financial transactions with the United States as part of the recent nuclear accord between the two countries.

The North's official press agency, KCNA, quoted an unidentified Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that the decision, to be put into effect in mid-January, would also allow the entry of U.S. ships into North Korean ports and open telecommunications services between the two countries.

"This means that we have completely fulfilled our obligation under the provision on the reduction of the barriers to trade and investment stipulated in the DPRK-U.S. framework agreement," the spokesman said, using the initials for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Under the Oct. 21 nuclear accord, the United States and North Korea are required to ease restrictions on trade and investment in each other's country within three months of the signing date.

On Monday, the United States welcomed the North's move and said it would

be examining its own steps to improve ties with Pyongyang over the next few months. "We view this as a step that is consistent with the framework agreement to improve ties between the two countries," a senior administration official said of the decision.

North Korea's announcement came on the eve of a new round of talks between Japan, South Korea and the United States on financing \$4 billion in new nuclear technology as part of the North Korean accord.

The deal, signed after months of negotiations, is aimed at dismantling Pyong-

yang's suspected nuclear weapons program. The North will receive two modern nuclear reactors, along with financial aid and diplomatic recognition.

As part of the deal, the North will dismantle by 2003 its three outdated graphite-core reactors, which can produce weapons-grade plutonium more readily than the two modern light-water reactors it will receive for generating electricity.

In Washington, meanwhile, a senior State Department official said Monday

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Russia Orders Truce And Offers Amnesty

Cost of War Severe Blow To Reforms

By Lee Hockstader
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Russia on Monday announced unilateral 48-hour cease-fire in Chechnya, now entering its fifth week, has shattered Moscow's financial and budgetary plans for 1995 and thrown into question the future of economic reforms, according to economists here and abroad.

With no immediate letup in sight, the war has cost the country \$2 billion to \$5 billion, according to unofficial estimates, and continues to drain the nation's meager coffers at a rate of nearly \$30 million a day.

Rebuilding even the most basic elements of Chechnya's pulverized infrastructure and industry, including large oil refineries, would cost much more.

It is money that Russia can ill-afford to spend in the midst of a delicate transition to a market economy. President Boris N. Yeltsin launched the war Dec. 11, on the eve of what Russian officials described as a critical economic crossroads — the introduction of an ambitious, anti-inflationary 1995 budget planned to slash monthly inflation to 3 or 4 percent.

But that reform program depended on tight limits on government spending that have been dashed by the military debacle in Chechnya. It also relied heavily on an infusion of cash from the West, which also may be now seriously jeopardized.

Western officials say there is already a growing reluctance to extend Moscow billions of dollars in loans that would now be used largely to finance the Chechen war. Those funds, including a \$6.4 billion loan pending from the International Monetary Fund, were originally designed to help stabilize the Russian economy and strengthen the currency.

Among some senior Western experts, there is a sense that one heavy casualty of the war has been the credibility of the Russian government, which has lost the backing of most reformers and appears increasingly to be in the grip of a power struggle.

"More than affecting the credibility of financial programming and projections, they have damaged their own credibility as politicians," a Western economist in Moscow said. "There's a sense there's something rotten in the institutions that exist but don't work."

Otto Latsis, a columnist and member of a presidential advisory council, wrote in Izvestia on Dec. 29: "Even today these expenses have brought us to the point beyond which the current fragile financial balance will inevitably collapse. Two or three more weeks of this and we will have to say good-bye to the entire economic plan, which is designed to get us out of the economic crisis in three years."

Former Prime Minister Yegor T. Gai-

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Chechens Get 48 Hours To Disarm

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — Russia on Monday announced unilateral 48-hour cease-fire in Chechnya starting at 0400 GMT Tuesday and ordered the rebels to halt their resistance and disband within that time.

A statement distributed by the Itar-Tass press agency said the decision was prompted by Moscow's desire to explore chances for a peaceful solution to the Chechen crisis.

The statement, made on behalf of President Boris N. Yeltsin, said all rebel fighters who laid down their weapons would be free under amnesty and allowed to go home safely.

The government of the Russian Federation expresses hope that the members of illegal armed formations will accept the offer for the sake of restoring peace," the statement said.

Earlier Monday, Moscow's human rights commissioner, Sergei A. Kovalev, said Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin backed his plan for a two-day cease-fire, allowing Russian troops to bury their dead and withdraw the wounded from the Chechen capital of Grozny.

Mr. Kovalev said he was heading to Grozny to negotiate the truce with the Chechen leaders.

In Grozny, Russian troops and the rebels were locked in street battles on Monday as the Russians poured in thousands of infantrymen in a major assault on the presidential palace.

The Russian rocket and mortar barrages of recent days gave way to tank fire and machine-gun and small-arms attacks.

The area around the presidential palace, the symbol of Chechnya's independence drive and Russia's main target, was a whirlwind of shrapnel, bullets and shells.

Plumes of black smoke towered over the city.

The Chechen soldiers were clearly exhausted as they battled the fresher Russian troops. More Russian reinforcements arrived on Monday, and a battalion of 30 tanks moved toward the city on one road.

Facing overwhelming firepower, the Chechens were increasingly somber, with faces haggard and eyes red from lack of sleep after 10 days of fighting. They said they remained determined to fight, but they held appeared to be shrinking.

Moscow appears determined to try and end the war quickly as possible, and at almost any cost. On Monday, residents of two Chechen villages where 48 captured Russian paratroopers were suspected of being held gathered at a mosque to beg Russian bomber pilots for mercy.

On Sunday, Itar-Tass reported that a Russian radio broadcast had threatened to bomb and destroy Alkazurovo and other villages unless all the paratroopers were released.

Some Chechens said they believed the Russians wanted to crush the rebels quickly, ahead of a special session of the lower house of the Russian Parliament, which will debate the conflict on Wednesday.

For the first time in the fighting for Grozny that began Dec. 31 there were clear battle lines, with Russian infantrymen try-

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Aftershocks Of Fighting in Ex-Yugoslavia

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

RJEEKA, Croatia — A few months ago, a former Croatian soldier stormed into a bar in Osijek, opened fire and killed four patrons. Government officials were quick to assert that the killer was a run-of-the-mill psychopath, and that his murderous outburst had nothing to do with his military service.

"We are faced with far fewer psychiatric problems in our army than we might expect," asserted Vlado Jukic, the chief army psychiatrist, "because our soldiers are defending their own soil and fighting for their own freedom."

But despite such denials, other doctors assert that post-traumatic stress is a serious problem across the former Yugoslavia. They say that long after the war is over, societies here will be confronting extraordinary rates of divorce, alcoholism, drug abuse, suicide, and domestic and public violence.

At the clinical hospital in Rijeka, 195 kilometers (120 miles) southwest of Zagreb, a team of physicians and therapists has opened what they say is the only program in the former Yugoslavia dedicated to treating war veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress. Most of the patients, veterans of the war with Serbian-dominated Serbia that erupted after Croatia seceded in 1991, have committed or witnessed ghastly acts.

"This war is creating a complex of social and psychological problems that we have never seen before," said Ljiljana Moro, the program director. "They are compounded



SATUM TAKAHASHI/REUTERS
APPLES FOR JAPAN — A Tokyo supermarket clerk piling up American apples. They went on sale Monday for the first time in Japan. Page 9.

Kiosk

Outage Disrupts Newark Airport

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — Construction workers damaged main electrical cables serving terminals at Newark International Airport on Monday, forcing all international and many domestic flights to be canceled or diverted.

The airport general manager, Ben DeCosta, said power would not be restored before Tuesday morning, at the earliest. The problem did not affect the control tower or airport navigational aids, but knocked out baggage carousels, loading ramps, elevators and escalators, computers and other equipment in the terminals.

About 1,200 flights move through Newark International daily.

The dollar slid to 1.5370 Deutsche marks from 1.5635 on Friday and to 99.90 yen from 101.375 yen. It fell to 5.3145 French francs from 5.3988 francs and to 4.2875 Swiss francs from 4.3100. The

peso had slipped to 6.1 against the dollar Friday night, a level that the United States, as Mexico's principal trading partner and guarantor, did not want to see validated by markets on Monday. The intervention later in the morning as the peso strengthened.

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Curious Scandal Underlines Rabin's Loss of Strength

By Barton Gellman
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — As if his political fortunes had not sagged enough, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has been forced to defend himself against allegations that he came to power two and a half years ago in an election-eve conspiracy with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

According to the newly published memoirs of a PLO negotiator, Mr. Rabin's Labor Party asked the Palestinians to help improve Labor's prospects in the 1992 election by ensuring that there would be no breakthrough in negotiations with the Likud government of then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mr. Rabin's response, so the story goes, also asked the PLO to help turn out the Israeli Arab vote and urge Israel's fractious Arab parties, which are aligned with Mr. Rabin today, to unite.

It was a curious plot, if such there was, because it called on all sides to do what they were already doing. The

PLO had long since deadlocked with Mr. Shamir's government, and Mr. Shamir himself told an Israeli newspaper after the election that he intended the talks to go nowhere. Also, attempts by the PLO chairman, Yasser Arafat, to broker Israeli Arab politics well known here for years, were no more successful in 1992 than they had been before.

Further tangling the story, all the plot's reported participants — including Mr. Rabin, through his office; the author of the memoirs, the PLO negotiator Mahmoud Abbas, and the man he said was the envoy, Said Kanaan — now deny that the conspiracy took place. Mr. Abbas said the narrative was inserted in the book without his knowledge by one of his aides.

Mr. Rabin is suffering a midterm low, and it was considered a sign of his weakness here that the scandal was played big by Israel's popular press. The country's best-selling newspapers carried headlines on his statement that the allegations against Labor "bordered on treason."

The current Likud leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, demanded a commission of inquiry.

Although as many as two years off, the next national elections do not

parliamentary majority, thus forcing early elections.

A change of government would mean a significant change of direction for Israeli diplomacy. Mr. Netanyahu and other senior Likud leaders have said they would cease movement toward Palestinian self-government and might reverse the transfer of powers that Mr. Rabin has proposed. They have strongly opposed proposals to return the Golan Heights to Syria, and former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon has said that Likud would not honor any such agreement that Mr. Rabin signed.

Mr. Rabin has been plagued most of all by an upsurge in terror since October. The pollster Hazzach Smith, who has surveyed voters here for 17 years, said that "the personal security issue ranks number one, two, three and four" for Israeli voters.

But Mr. Rabin also has repeatedly tripped in domestic politics. He pushed through an unpopular stock market tax, then put out word he might withdraw it, then flipped again

and reluctantly stuck by the plan. When word reached him on a trip to South Korea that inflation had reached more than 14 percent a year, the cameras caught him in a rather un-prime ministerial "Oy, vey!" And most recently his party has been in open rebellion, with his own parliamentary faction chairman opposing Mr. Rabin's policy on the length of the school day.

If the election were held today, Mr. Smith said, Labor's 42-to-37 lead over Likud in parliamentary seats would become a 32-to-44 deficit. Mr. Rabin has patched together the necessary 61 members on crucial votes in the 120-seat Parliament with a collection of leftist parties, Israeli Arabs and a couple of rightist defectors. But such a majority would be well beyond his reach with only 32 Labor votes.

"A strong government would have brushed this story off its sleeve like an insect," wrote Menachem Shalev in the newspaper Ma'ariv. "But this government of Yitzhak Rabin is not strong."

WORLD BRIEFS

Ex-Malawi Leader Is Denied Bail

BLANTYRE, Malawi (AP) — Former President Hastings Kamuzu Banda, facing murder charges linked to the deaths of four politicians a decade ago, was denied bail at a court hearing Monday and will go on trial Jan. 18, the government said.

Mr. Banda, in his 90s and ailing after brain surgery, did not attend the magistrate's court where lawyers filed his bail application, a government spokesman said. The nation's longtime ruler has been under house arrest in Blantyre since Wednesday.

His senior associate, John Tembo, former minister of state in charge of the police, was also denied bail in the brief hearing, along with two former police officers accused of involvement in the 1983 assassinations of three government ministers and a member of Parliament.

UN Considers Curbs on Land Mines

GENEVA (AP) — A United Nations meeting on new international laws against land mines opened Monday under criticism that its proposals will do little to reduce the loss of life and limb caused by the weapons.

The two-week meeting of experts is meant to prepare a new draft convention for a ministerial conference later this year on controlling anti-personnel mines. The proposals being considered for the draft fall short of an outright ban.

There are about 100 million mines in 60 countries. Each month about 800 people are killed and thousands are maimed. Many of the casualties occur years, sometimes decades, after a conflict has ended.

Truce Terms Violated in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (Reuters) — A truce between Sri Lankan government troops and Tamil rebels was violated just a day after it began when rebels were seen moving in a restricted area outside an army camp, military sources said Monday. But the incident passed peacefully and was unlikely to affect the two-week cease-fire.

"It is a minor violation and won't hamper the cease-fire," said a military field officer, who reported that a group of 15 rebels were spotted on Sunday night in a restricted zone outside an army camp on the northern Jaffna Peninsula.

Under an agreement signed by President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga and Tamil rebels last week, government and rebel troops will maintain present ground positions, keeping a minimum of 600 meters (650 yards) between each other. The truce, which will be monitored by foreign observers, came into force at midnight Saturday in a major step toward ending a 12-year separatist war that has cost more than 30,000 lives.

Stone Age Art Doomed in Portugal

LISBON (AP) — Despite pleas by archaeologists and artists, the state electric company announced Monday that it would go ahead with construction of a dam that will submerge a rare gallery of Stone Age carvings.

The Coa River gallery, made up of some 60 animal figures chiseled on a granite riverbank at least 20,000 years ago, is considered one of the most important outdoor displays of Stone Age art in the world.

Rwanda's Army Arrests 2 in Attack

BUSANZE CAMP, Rwanda, (Reuters) — Rwanda's government army said Monday that its troops attacked a camp in the southwest, where 12 homeless people were slaughtered and more than 30 were wounded. A spokesman for the Rwanda Patriotic Army said two officers were arrested in connection with the attack Saturday on Busanze camp near the border with Burundi in which he said 11 people were killed.

Aid workers who visited Busanze on Sunday found a trench filled with 12 corpses, five of them children, with limbs broken by machete blows and executed with a bullet to the back of the head. A total of 36 wounded were taken from the camp to the Medical Emergency Relief International health center at Rumonge. UN officials confirmed that 12 people were killed in the attack.

Some aid workers said Sunday that they suspected gunmen loyal to the ousted Hutu regime in Rwanda were behind the raid. But a spokesman for the Rwanda Patriotic Army, Major Wilson Rutayisire, said a grenade was thrown at an unauthorized army food patrol outside the camp. The patrol opened fire and killed 11 people, he said.

Auschwitz Ceremony Plans Assailed

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — The head of the International Auschwitz Committee said Monday that he was disappointed by Poland's "chaotic" preparations for ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the Nazi death camp's liberation.

Nobel Peace Prize winners that the committee requested be invited had not received official invitations from the Polish government and, with only two weeks to go, there was still no official program, said Maurice Goldstein of Belgium, an Auschwitz survivor. "I'm deeply disappointed by the lightweight and chaotic manner in which this ceremony is being prepared," he said.

Camp survivors and representatives of 26 nations are expected at the ceremony on Jan. 26 and 27, which is being jointly organized by Poland and the Auschwitz Committee.

Savimbi and Angola Leader to Meet

LISBON (Reuters) — President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Jonas Savimbi, the leader of the UNITA rebel army, will meet Friday in Zaire, the Portuguese news agency, LUSA, reported Monday. Spokesmen for the Angolan embassy and the UNITA delegation in Lisbon said they were unable to confirm or deny the report.

The government and UNITA signed a peace accord in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, in November, but each side has since accused the other of violating a cease-fire.

Luanda quoted a government source as saying the rival leaders would meet in the Zairian town of Gbadolite on Friday, three days after a scheduled meeting of their military commanders in the Angolan city of Huambo.

For the Record

Five children were among seven people gunned down in Durban, South Africa, after a wedding ceremony in the latest eruption of violence in strife-torn KwaZulu/Natal province.

In Asyat, Egypt, policemen killed three youths believed to be Muslim militants, the Interior Ministry said.

Nigeria's conference on a return to civilian rule voted to adjourn to March 6 to give its drafting committee more time to prepare a final report to the military government.

TRAVEL UPDATE

Traffic Rises for European Airlines

BRUSSELS (AP) — The main airlines in the European Union increased their traffic by 11.5 percent in November compared with November 1993, the 24-member Association of European Airlines said Monday.

The biggest increase was on routes across the South Atlantic on which traffic grew by 18.1 percent. Traffic within Europe increased by 14.8 percent and on the North Atlantic by 12.2 percent, which was the biggest increase for two and a half years.

The seat occupancy rate rose by 3.6 percentage points in November, to 64.3 percent on average, a record for November, the association said.

A 24-hour strike by 200 Scandinavian Airlines Systems pilots was to end at midnight Monday after affecting about 10 percent of the airline's services, SAS said. The pilots, who struck after negotiations over pay broke down, operate Fokker-50 propeller planes on flights connecting Copenhagen with Swedish destinations, Prague, Berlin and Luxembourg, as well as domestic routes in northern Norway.

Schiphol Airport accommodated 23.5 million passengers in 1994, up 11 percent from the year before, placing it again among the fastest-growing airports in Europe, Hans Smits, the president of Amsterdam airport, reported.

New View of Iran's Nuclear Age

Bomb Capability 7 to 15 Years Off, U.S. and Israel Agree

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

TEL AVIV — Defense Secretary William J. Perry said Monday that Washington and Israel were "both very much concerned" about Iran's potential nuclear threat, but said that the Iranians were still "many, many years" away from developing an atomic bomb.

Ending a two-day visit to Israel on Monday night, the secretary agreed with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that 7 to 15 years was "a reasonable estimate" of how long it might take Iran at its present pace.

This estimate was longer than the five years or less forecast recently by some senior American and Israeli officials.

But the possibility that there is a longer lead time than those officials say did not lessen the severity of Mr. Perry's warning about Iran's potential for becoming a nuclear power. And there is always a danger, he said, of Tehran speeding up the program with a "shortcut method" like acquiring highly enriched uranium or weapons from Russia or other nuclear powers with cash problems.

"A major part of the U.S. program is directed to keeping outside assistance and nuclear weapons from getting to Iran or

But even as they spoke at a

conference in Jericho, Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres of Israel met in the Gaza Strip and reported progress in their talks on expanding Palestinian self-rule.

Mr. Peres announced that Prime Minister Rabin would meet with Mr. Arafat next week to discuss plans for an Israeli pullout from West Bank towns as a prelude to Palestinian elections. Teams from both sides resumed talks in Cairo on Monday on details of the elections.

The negotiations, however, are being held against the background of increasing unrest in the West Bank over continued construction at Israeli settlements there. The result was the conference Monday in Jericho, attended by four members of the self-governing council and representatives of West Bank regions and political factions, including Hamas.

The concluding statement urged the authority "to play a more active role in confronting settlement activity and to suspend the negotiations, because continuing them under the shadow of the settlement drive will encourage the Israeli government to pursue its policy of settlement expansion."



UP AND AWAY — Commander Herzi Bodinger of Israel's air force with Secretary of Defense William J. Perry as he timed F-16s scrambling Monday at Ramat David Air Base.

Judge in Singapore Case Orders Herald Tribune to Answer Charge

Reuters

SINGAPORE — A Singapore court ruled Monday that an American professor who wrote an article for the International Herald Tribune and officials of the newspaper had a case to answer over a contempt of court charge.

"I am satisfied the attorney general has made a prima facie case," Justice Goh Joon Seng said.

The court was adjourned until Jan. 17, when the IHT Asia editor, Michael Richardson, is expected to be cross-examined in the dispute over the article, which was written by Christopher Lingle, an academic, and published last October.

The article made unfaltering remarks about Asian judiciaries that it did not identify, Mr. Richardson said.

Mr. Richardson; Mr. Lingle; the Paris-based publisher of the IHT, Richard McLean; the local distributor, International Herald Tribune (Singapore); and the printer, Singapore Press Holdings, are the defendants in the case.

Mr. Lingle, a former senior fellow at the National University of Singapore, returned to the

United States last year after being questioned by the police about his article and said he would not reappear in Singapore to face charges.

Attorney General Chan Sek Keong told the court that certain parts of Mr. Lingle's article clearly referred to Singapore and were calculated to undermine public confidence in the judiciary, even though the country was not named.

Mr. Chan read aloud passages referring to "intolerant regimes in the region," some of which rely "upon a compliant judiciary to bankrupt opposition politicians."

The attorney general said the five defendants "have scandalized the Singapore judiciary by calling it compliant."

He said Mr. Lingle's failure to submit an affidavit left him unable to deny that he had committed contempt.

Mr. Chan said it was common knowledge in Singapore that government politicians sued opposition figures for

damages for defamation when circumstances justified.

It is also public knowledge in Singapore that following the results of such legal proceedings, a number of opposition politicians have been subjected to bankruptcy proceedings or adjudged bankrupt," Mr. Chan said.

That has not happened in other Asian countries, he said.

Mr. Richardson's lawyer, K. Shanmugam, argued that a reasonable reader would not assume Mr. Lingle's article referred to Singapore. Parts of Mr. Richardson's affidavit read in court said he assumed the statement referred to Communist and military regimes such as those in China, Vietnam, North Korea and Burma.

Mr. Shanmugam said there were examples in such countries of legal actions effectively bankrupting dissidents, but Mr. Chan said those examples were not in line with the normal understanding of bankruptcy procedures.

Michael Hwang, lawyer for Mr. McLean, the distributor and the printer, said his clients had no prior knowledge of the article's content, and all agreed with an unreserved and unequivocal apology in the Dec. 10 edition of the IHT.

Those charged with contempt of court in Singapore must appear in court to show cause why they should not be punished. The court has discretion to impose a jail term or

Portugal Meets With Indonesia On East Timor

The Associated Press

GENEVA — Foreign ministers from Portugal and Indonesia on Monday welcomed United Nations proposals for talks between different factions in East Timor but remained far apart on a political settlement for the Southeast Asian territory.

Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of Portugal and his Indonesian counterpart, Ali Alatas, said they would meet in New York in May to begin "substantive" discussions after three years of exploratory negotiations under the chairmanship of the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali.

The two countries are bitterly divided over the former Portuguese colony, which was annexed by Indonesia when civil war broke out in 1976. The United Nations has never recognized Indonesia as the region's rightful administrator but has been trying to mediate ever since.

Portugal has demanded a referendum on independence or partial autonomy for East Timor but the Indonesian government rejects any such vote.

"There was some progress," said Mr. Durao Barroso at the end of the day's session. "But our positions remained opposite in every way related to the status of the territory and self-determination."

Portugal has demanded a

Peter Cook, Acidic Comic Of U.K. Stage-TV, Dies

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Peter Cook, 57, whose acerbic, satiric wit influenced a generation of British comedians, died Saturday in Pretoria. In 1979, he was attacked by members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement after he challenged the religious sanctity of the Day of the Vow, a holy day in the Afrikaner culture.

Mr. Cook had his first success in the 1960s in the comedy revue, "Beyond the Fringe," appearing with Jonathan Miller, Alan Bennett and Dudley Moore. After a long run in London, the show moved to Broadway in 1967.

He later teamed with Mr. Moore on several British television shows, including "Pete 'n' Dud" and "Not Only But Also." The latter show ran on the BBC in 1965-66 and 1970-73.

Although Mr. Cook had roles in several films, notably "Bedazzled" in 1967

THE AMERICAS / CAMPUS INDIFFERENCE

POLITICAL NOTES

New Jersey Governor Is on the Button

WASHINGTON — Wedged between Lamar Alexander and Jack Kemp and only coincidentally to the left of Bob Dole and Phil Gramm, buttons toting Governor Christie Whitman of New Jersey for president are doing a brisk business this year at Political Americana, a Washington store that sells presidential political memorabilia.

"Whitman is in with the pack," says Jimmy Warlick, the president of Political Americana and an amateur political prognosticator who has built his business largely around predicting who is politically hot with the public and who is not.

"Right now, Governor Whitman is doing very well. Her buttons are selling good. It's hard to tell whether people are buying them because they view her as a potential presidential candidate or as a vice-presidential candidate, but they are buying them."

In the year since Mrs. Whitman took office — the first woman to run New Jersey's government — and even before she gives her first State of the State speech on Tuesday, she has skyrocketed to national political stardom.

And while she is popular in her home state, she has also worked hard positioning herself nationally. She went around the country campaigning on behalf of Republican candidates, with the trips paid for in part by her own state's party. These trips garnered Mrs. Whitman much national attention.

Last week, Newt Gingrich, the new House speaker, praised her as a model of leadership for the new Congress. And though she and a key adviser, Malcolm S. Forbes Jr., the publisher and a champion of tax cutting, are coy about it, other observers believe that Mrs. Whitman is moving herself toward the national political stage. (NYT)

Virginia Pulls Plug on Computer Games

WASHINGTON — For Kim Emerson, it was a game of solitaire before work started. Ed Holt loved hearts at lunchtime. And Kevin Chisnell was wild about Minesweeper competitions with his co-workers.

But for all three and thousands of other state employees in Virginia, the games are over.

Concerned that some state workers were playing when they should be working, Governor George Allen, a Republican, has ordered that games be deleted from every state-owned computer. An administration memo called computer game-playing "nonproductive and inefficient" and stated that "time spent by employees playing such games should be considered an improper use of taxpayer funds."

As computers with high-resolution color screens and sound cards become ubiquitous in the American workplace, managers increasingly are having to deal with issues of game-playing at work, industry specialists say. But several computer industry watchers call Virginia's sweeping ban — which eliminates playing even during lunchtime and breaks — unprecedented.

"I've never heard of anything like this applying to so many people," said Russell Giltman, executive editor of PC World magazine. "It's a question of where you draw the line." (WP)

Darkness Falls on 1,000 Points of Light

WASHINGTON — Throughout his presidency, George Bush persistently promoted his "1,000 Points of Light" campaign as the antidote for hunger, homelessness and poverty. Six days a week, Mr. Bush honored someone — a so-called Point of Light — for performing exemplary volunteer work.

In 1990, while declaring that solutions to some of the nation's most vexing problems lay in the hands of ordinary citizens and organizations — not huge government bureaucracies — Mr. Bush began a private, nonprofit foundation to motivate every American to engage in community service.

Today, the lone remnant of the Bush initiative has the look of a wasteful, Washington-dependent operation. So far, the Points of Light Foundation has received \$26.6 million in federal funds — more than half its budget — while incurring a wide range of costs that amount to questionable spending, experts in the volunteer industry said.

An examination of financial records by The Los Angeles Times shows that \$22.3 million has been spent on glitz promotions, consultants, salaries, travel and conferences. The expenses include \$5.5 million to produce a television advertising campaign and \$1.4 million to host a celebration of community service.

By contrast, only 11 percent of the foundation's budget has been spent to provide grants to volunteer efforts across the country.

Despite early plans to remain a small organization, the Points of Light payroll has more than tripled to \$4.1 million. The foundation president, Richard F. Schubert, who was hired after he resigned under pressure as head of the American Red Cross, is paid \$160,000 annually. A 13-member executive management team receives average salaries in excess of \$80,000. (LAT)

Quote/Unquote

Representative Dick Armey of Texas, the House majority leader, on Democrats' economic proposals: "The Democrats in my estimation seem to be so obsessive with disliking the rich that they don't have much time left for loving somebody."

'Mr. Newt' Steals the Summit

Japanese Officials Eager to Meet the New House Speaker

By T. R. Reid
and Kevin Sullivan
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Japan's prime minister will cross the Pacific on Tuesday for a three-day visit to Washington, where he will meet the hottest politician in the capital: Newt Gingrich.

Tomomi Murayama's two-day trip is officially billed as a summit meeting between the heads of state of the world's two richest countries. But Japanese officials describing the trip to American reporters on Monday seemed almost more excited that their leader will get to meet the new, and Republican, speaker of the House.

"We are very pleased that, on the first time Mr. Newt meets a foreign leader in his role as speaker, it will be our prime minister," a Japanese diplomat said.

In a remark that captures how much Japanese thinking toward Washington has changed since November, the diplomat said Mr. Murayama "will meet the famous guy Newt Gingrich, and also, and also, who is the minority leader in the House?"

There was a time when every Japanese diplomat knew the name of the House minority leader, Richard A. Gephardt, Democrat of Missouri, because Mr. Gephardt is known here as an outspoken Japan-basher.

Mr. Murayama is on shaky ground as he heads to his first

For College Freshmen, Politics More Boring Than Ever

By Rene Sanchez
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The proportion of college freshmen who say that paying close attention to political affairs is important has declined to its lowest level in the 29 years that freshman attitudes have been surveyed.

The annual survey, regarded as a barometer of the outlooks and aspirations of college students, is based on responses from about 238,000 freshmen across the country this fall.

It portrays growing political apathy, rising anxiety over the cost of attending college and sharply divergent views on social issues.

Never in the history of the survey have more students expressed support for capital punishment, for example, but never have more shown support for gun control or gay rights.

Organizers of the survey say that it suggests this year's college freshmen are more indifferent to politics than any class previously surveyed.

Only 16 percent of them said that they frequently "discuss politics," and only 32 percent called "keeping up with political affairs" important. Both figures, which have been declining since the late 1960s, are record lows.

"I think the negative campaigning that has come to dominate many elections, and the growing hostility you hear toward government and public service, is certainly being picked up by a lot of young people," said Alexander W. Astin, director of the UCLA Higher Education Research Institute, which conducted the survey.

The trends reported in the survey are not necessarily long-term harbingers of college attitudes.

said there is "too much concern shown for criminals."

Growing support for gun control and gay rights. Eighty percent of the freshmen said that federal government "should do more to control handguns." Only 34 percent said they supported laws prohibiting homosexual relations.

Record interest in careers in medicine. About 9 percent of the freshmen indicated that they intended to earn a medical degree, the highest figure ever. Female students expressed more interest in medicine than men.

Support for legalizing marijuana. That grew for the fifth consecutive year, up to 32 percent of the freshmen surveyed. That figure had plummeted throughout the 1980s after reaching a peak of nearly 55 percent in 1977.

A rise in cigarette smoking. About

12.5 percent of freshmen said they smoked, compared with 9 percent in 1985.

The survey also reported steadily increasing fears among freshmen that the rising cost of tuition may keep them from graduating. Reliance on college loans increased for the eighth time in 10 years, and the proportion of freshmen expressing doubt about being able to pay for college hit a record high of 19 percent. In 1988, that figure was 8 percent.

The response to that question had been steady for many years," Mr. Astin said. "Suddenly, we've really seen it start to move up."

Nearly 40 percent of the freshmen questioned said they believed they would need a job to help cover their expenses, and almost 6 percent said they would have to work full time.

Not a Pretty Picture For Arts Funding

House Leaders Attack Endowment

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The National Endowment for the Arts is preparing to fight for survival as House Republican leaders take aim at its budget and challenge its very existence.

The fight, likely to last throughout the year, turns on a fundamental question: What is the appropriate role of the federal government in financing arts?

"I would argue that it is not within the scope of Washington, not within the scope of the federal government, to be involved in funding arts activities around America," said Representative John A. Boehner of Ohio, who is chairman of the Republican conference.

"We are out there living high on the hog, funding all of these activities around the country, only to pass the bill on to our kids and grandkids," he said.

The House speaker, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, Representative Dick Armey of Texas, the majority leader, and Mr. Boehner have all declared that the federal government has no business making grants to artists and arts organizations.

Another powerful Republican, Representative Thomas D. DeLay of Texas, the new party whip, joined them in an unsuccessful vote last year to eliminate all federal money for the endowment, which has long been a favorite target of conservatives.

Senior members of Congress from both parties say that the budget of the endowment is sure to be cut and that the only question is how much.

The budget this year is \$167.4 million, down from \$170.2 million last year.

The endowment, created in 1965, accounts for a tiny portion of all spending on the arts in the United States. Its appropriation is less than the operating budget of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York, which is \$316 million this year. Private giving to the arts exceeds \$9 billion a year, according to the American Association of Fund-Raising Counsel, a private group that does annual surveys.

Senior members of Congress from both parties say that the budget of the endowment is sure to be cut and that the only question is how much.

The budget this year is \$167.4 million, down from \$170.2 million last year.

The trial is the second chapter in the U.S. government's prosecution of those believed to be behind the Feb. 26, 1993,

Reuters

NEW YORK — Jury selection in the case against an Egyptian cleric and 11 of his followers accused of plotting to bomb New York City landmarks began Monday with the first 100 potential panelists led into court under heavy security.

U.S. District Judge Michael Mukasey began the selection process by explaining the case to potential jurors who will be asked to complete a 53-question survey on topics ranging from the bombing of the World Trade Center to the Islamic faith.

The trial is the second chapter in the U.S. government's prosecution of those believed to be behind the Feb. 26, 1993,

bombing of the Trade Center, which killed 6 people and injured more than 1,000.

Four men have been convicted and sentenced to life in prison for carrying out the attack. Prosecutors allege they were part of a much larger organization working to punish the United States for its support of Israel.

The government alleges that Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman, a blind Muslim fundamentalist cleric, is the spiritual leader of the organization. He and his co-defendants are accused of plotting since 1989 to blow up New York landmarks, including the World Trade Center and the United Nations headquarters building.

Judge Mukasey told the panelists that the trial could last six to nine months. He said he hoped that opening arguments could begin on Jan. 30.

3 Die in Nigerian Dispute

The Associated Press

Continued from Page 1

that North Korea had embarked on a program to build

dozens of nuclear weapons per year before it reached the agreement with the United States last fall.

The official, Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord, who heads the department's East Asia bureau, said North Korea had been "on the verge of being able to produce plutonium and then nuclear weapons consisting of dozens every year as we look to the next several years."

Last week, Defense Secretary William J. Perry said that North Korea might have produced "four or five" nuclear weapons.

Mr. Lord praised North Korea for "meticulous" fulfillment of the terms of the accord, including full inspection of its nuclear facilities and freezing construction of reactors.

He also said he was confident that Congress would overcome its reservations about the deal.

"It's quite complex," he said.

(AP, Reuters)

OBITUARY

TILLMAN, DR. WOLF GEORGE
Son of the late George Tillman of Hawking, On January 3, 1995 peacefully in Aldeney, Cheltenham.
Private cremation. Memorial service at St. Anne's Church, Aldeney, at 3 p.m. Monday, January 9. Family flowers only. Donations in his honor to Aldeney Cancer Relief Fund, Cheltenham Road, Victoria St., Aldeney, C1.

Service to be announced at a later date.

Knowledge Stocks Ready to Surge?

In late 1994 America Online staged a 30-day climb from \$31 to \$57. Even Disney, planning to sell its educational facilities, rose from \$37 to \$46 in 10 weeks. Is this the start of a megatrend that will leave the information age behind? IPM has been saying so in the new InfoWeb reports which have covered dozens of involved stocks from Apple to Xerox with solid upside projections. These reports are a complimentary service if you'd like to start following them.

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Ed Meyers, of Guerneville, California, preparing to evacuate along with hundreds of other residents, as rain-swollen rivers in Napa and Sonoma counties continued to rise.

John Benjamin Warda was arrested in the state of Colorado. (AP)

The Supreme Court denied an appeal by Dow Corning on Monday challenging an award of more than \$7 million in damages to a California woman, Mariann Hopkins, who had sued in 1988 over her injuries from the company's silicone gel breast implants. (Reuters)

The IHT Pocket Diary Puts 1995 Right Into Your Pocket.

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5-9 diaries UK £20.50 (U.S.\$31) each

A Bosnian Leader Disputes U.S. View Of Partition Plan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic bluntly disagreed Monday with a senior U.S. diplomat on an international peace plan for Bosnia, insisting it was more than simply a basis for talks.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke, following a meeting here with Mr. Silajdzic and President Alija Izetbegovic, twice referred to the plan proposed by the five-nation "contact group" on Bosnia as "a starting point for negotiations" between the Bosnian government and rebel Serbs.

"Let me phrase it exactly," Mr. Holbrooke told reporters. "The contact group's goal is to gain acceptance of the contact group plan as the starting point for negotiations. That is our position. There's no need for us to go any further."

That provoked the following response from Mr. Silajdzic: "That's your position, Mr. Holbrooke. But for Bosnia-Herzegovina it was take-it-or-leave-it."

"It's a bit, if I may say, unfair. We were asked to accept it with no conditions. Now it seems that the position has shifted when it comes to the aggressor representatives."

"We accepted under terms of take-it-or-leave-it. We took it, they left it."

Mr. Izetbegovic had earlier repeated his government's insistence that before peace talks can resume, "the Serbian side must accept the plan."

Unveiled last July by the

United States, Britain, France, Germany, and Russia, the proposal would allot the Bosnian Serbs 49 percent of Bosnia, down from the 70 percent they have seized in 33 months of war.

Serbian authorities rejected the plan and the proposed land distribution, while the Muslim-led government, which would share 51 percent of the territory with Bosnian Croats, accepted it.

The broad outlines of the deal had initially been presented as nonnegotiable. But at a meeting in Brussels in December, the contact group, to the annoyance of the Bosnian government, decided that the land division "can be adjusted by mutual agreement between the parties."

A cease-fire agreement mediated late last month by former President Jimmy Carter was likewise reported to have made no references to the contact group plan in order to ensure Serbian backing.

A United Nations spokesman said the situation across Bosnia was quiet on Monday, including the BiHac pocket in the northwest.

But the cease-fire, which came into effect on Jan. 1, has become bogged down in a dispute over the demilitarized zone around Sarajevo.

A meeting of rival military commanders scheduled for Wednesday at Sarajevo airport to discuss carrying out the "cessation of hostilities" appeared in doubt.

(AFP, Reuters)

BANGLADESH PILGRIM TRAIN — A train overloaded with Muslim pilgrims leaving an Islamic festival on Monday in Gazipur, Bangladesh, near Dhaka. A total of 4 million people attended the festival over three days.

ALGERIA: France and IMF Work to Get Aid to Embattled Government

Continued from Page 1

growth since the Christmas Eve hijacking of an Air France jetliner, which was part of an escalation of the bitter civil war between Islamic militants and the government. The conflict is now causing from 500 to 1,000 deaths each week, they said. It began after Algiers decided to cancel parliamentary elections in 1992, a decision that was endorsed by France.

Patients in Rijeka attend individual counseling sessions with psychiatrists and therapists. At these sessions they recount, often for the first time, what they have seen and done, and also discuss the problems they have had readjusting to civilian life.

Many of the patients are silent and withdrawn, unable to make friends or face normal day-to-day situations. Periodically, they erupt in rage, cursing for what seems to be little or no

reason. Many are overwhelmed by feelings of guilt or loss, and lash out unpredictably even at those close to them.

Dealing with these patients and listening to their horrific accounts of atrocities takes its toll on the therapists. They meet at the beginning of each day to steel themselves for the ordeal, and many are transferred to other units when the pressure of the job threatens to overwhelm them.

About 15 patients gather for group therapy session each weekday. One recent session elicited a series of long silences and deep draws on cigarettes, punctuated every few minutes by poignant confessions.

"My head never stops pounding," one man said. "I have pain in every bone in my body. I can't sleep, and when I sleep, I wake up after an hour because the nightmares are so terrible. I want to stand in front of a mirror and ask why I had to do all the things I did, but I know there would be no answer. The only answer will come when I blow my head off."

Several of the patients complained bitterly about what they say is Croatian society's desire to ignore them. Many have been unable to find work, and say that employers avoid hiring war veterans for fear that they will prove unstable or dangerous.

"I burned my uniform because I didn't want to remember the terrible things I did while I was wearing it," one man said. "But the memories don't go away. I was raised as a good Catholic, but now I have no faith in anything. The only thing I believe in now is suicide."

Only one of the patients, who said he had spent nine months in a Serbian prison camp and watched scores of his fellow prisoners tortured and killed, wore his old Croatian Army uniform. He said he did so because he now earns his living as a beggar, and people seem more willing to give him coins when they see the uniform.

"It would have been so much better if I had been killed in battle," the man lamented. "Then I would have been a hero. Now I'm garbage."

RUSSIA: Yeltsin Orders 48-Hour Truce and Offers Amnesty to Rebels

Continued from Page 1

ing to force their way to the palace and the rebels throwing their strength into its defense.

The Russian attack was spearheaded by the infantry in a change of tactics from the disastrous tank assault that failed at the cost of heavy casualties over the New Year's weekend.

Chechen fighters said the Russian attack was strongest just 700 meters west of the palace, which has been the heart of the Chechen resistance since Russian forces entered the mostly Muslim region to crush its three-year secessionist campaign.

Intense battles were also under way to the north and east of the palace.

One Chechen unit commander said, "The Russians are sending in their infantry, then the snipers to consolidate their positions, then the tanks."

Russian artillery was quiet after two days of intense shelling of central Grozny, apparently to avoid hitting their own troops.

Itar-Tass said that the Russian forces were overcoming "fierce resistance" by Chechen

fighters. The statement said Chechen forces were regrouping outside the Chechen capital in preparation for guerrilla warfare from mountain bases.

Pressure for an end to the fighting continues to grow. The American deputy secretary of state, Strobe Talbott, flew to Brussels on Monday for talks with Russian officials and North Atlantic Treaty Organization representatives.

Domestic opposition to the military intervention in Chechnya has also increased since the battle for Grozny started on New Year's Eve in attacks that left hundreds of Russian soldiers dead.

Meanwhile, the location of the Chechen president, Dzhokhar Dudayev, remained a mystery.

A Chechen official, Hamata Kurbanov, maintained Monday that Mr. Dudayev was still in the presidential palace, contradicting Russian reports that the former Soviet Air Force general had fled the capital to a village southwest of Grozny. He has not been seen in public for a week.

(Reuters, AFP, AP, NYT)

ROCK: For China's Musicians, 'Nothin' Left to Lose'

Continued from Page 1
any police official who decides they might disturb political tranquility.

Mr. Cui's latest album, "Eggs Under the Red Flag," is another cry from the anchorless youth of China for direction.

"Money is fluttering in the wind," the title song says. "We have no ideals."

Mr. Cui acknowledges the political overtones of his music.

"I think politics is a very important part of any kind of art," he said.

But lyrics from the song take refuge in allusion and indirect:

"The time is now
But who knows what we should do?
The red flag is waving
It has no clear direction
Revolution is ongoing
The old men are still in power.
Asked for an interpretation,

Lamenting the decline of political lyrics in Chinese rock music, Mr. Cui added: "Nothing to My Name" changed my life. But today, there aren't so many musicians and many Chinese young people just enjoy the rock and roll that is coming from the West at the moment. There aren't many Chinese productions."

Last fall, the Ministry of Culture staged an officially sanctioned pop music extravaganza. The culture reporter of the semi-official China Daily dismissed the event under a headline that said: "More a Breeze Than a Gust." In something of an epitaph, the reporter observed: "During the 150-minute-long show, no hysteria broke out."

A Chechen fighter taking a break Monday after coming under intensive Russian shelling in the center of Grozny.

French Station Ignores Ban

Reuters

PARIS — The French radio station Skyrock ignored a broadcasting ban on Monday, imposed over a comment by a disc jockey that a policeman's killing was "pretty good news," and Pierre Bellanger, the station's president, was called before the French broadcasting commission to give an account of why the station failed to heed the 24-hour ban.

Moscow Calls Off German Maneuvers

Games Said to Have Been Set With Units Now in Chechnya

By Rick Atkinson
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — The German government confirmed Monday that Russia had postponed joint military maneuvers planned for next summer, apparently because Russian Army units scheduled to take part in the exercises were involved in the assault on Chechnya.

Defense Minister Volker Rühe, in an interview published Monday in the magazine Der Spiegel, said Moscow had informed Bonn that bilateral maneuvers to be held near St. Petersburg must be pushed back indefinitely.

The move represented at least a temporary setback for the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who has worked diligently to forge tighter economic and military bonds with Russia as a means of achieving a more secure Europe.

As Russia's largest trading partner and its chief provider of foreign aid, Germany has felt acute anxiety over the brutal fighting in Chechnya and the consequent turmoil in Russia.

Over the weekend, Mr. Kohl described the assault on Grozny as "complete madness."

The chancellor and his ministers have sought to walk a fine line between acquiescence and condemnation of Moscow's behavior, echoing Washington's characterization of the civil war as an "internal matter" while reproaching Russia for the brutal attacks. Perhaps the overriding German foreign policy concern since the breakup of the Soviet Union has been fear that instability in Eastern Europe will spill into Central and Western Europe.

Such sentiments were evident in Mr. Rühe's interview.

"It is important for us to ask: To what extent will the relationship with the West of a country like Russia change through the unequalled brutality in the way it tackles its internal affairs?" he told Der Spiegel. "Further reform and international cooperation are being endangered."

On the other hand, Mr. Rühe rejected sanctions against Moscow and said that "legally, Chechnya is a part of Russia."

"It remains in the overriding interests of European security and German-Russian relations, now that Russian troops have left Germany, that we work together — for example, in peace missions and in pursuing common training," he said. "Severing contacts is completely wrong."

Reports from Bonn indicated that Russian units earmarked for the summer's military exercises — similar to those conducted by U.S. troops in Russia last summer — are now fighting in Chechnya. But a planned visit to Bonn in March by the Russian defense minister, General Pavel S. Grachev, is still scheduled.

Mr. Kohl, who urged his friend President Boris N. Yeltsin in a telephone call last week to end the bloodshed in Chechnya, said further threats or sanctions against Moscow "would achieve nothing at the moment." Mr. Kohl has long depicted Germany as a mediator, helping to bring the former adversaries of East and West together.

In an interview with a Berlin radio station, the chancellor said: "We see people suffering, civilians, women and children. We see victims among the soldiers and regard it all as complete madness."

The German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, appeared to favor the view heard in some Western capitals that Mr. Yeltsin might not be in full control of his troops. Mr. Yeltsin ordered a half last week to bombing missions on Grozny, but reports from the region said that some attacks continued.

"Boris Yeltsin must exert his will over the Russian Army promptly," Mr. Kinkel told the newspaper Welt am Sonntag. "It is unacceptable that the Russian Army openly ignores measures that the Russian president has ordered, such as cessation of bombing raids against civilian targets."

BUDGET: Moscow's Woes

Continued from Page 1

dar, the main architect of Mr. Yeltsin's reform program, said: "Another three or four weeks and you can forget about next year's budget." Mr. Gaidar, a critic of the Chechen invasion, made his remark just before the New Year.

In the 28 days since the intervention began, the ruble has lost a tenth of its value against the dollar, falling to 3,512 from 3,323 on Dec. 11. The ruble now stands at its lowest point since it crashed in October. Inflation in the month of December jumped to 16.4 percent, the highest monthly rate since last January.

The European Commission, the European Union's executive body, protesting Russia's indiscriminate use of force in Chechnya, on Thursday froze an important interim trade accord with Moscow. "It is a signal that cannot be misunderstood," said Hans van den Broek, the European Union's external affairs commissioner.

The costs of prosecuting a war in a remote area 1,600 kilometers (1,000 miles) south of Moscow are tremendous. From 10,000 to 40,000 troops — many of whom are receiving at least triple their regular pay plus bonuses — must be transported and fed.

Gasoline and maintenance for thousands of tanks and armored vehicles are expensive. Russian warplanes and helicopters have been flying nearly around the clock for a month, driving up repair costs and consuming large volumes of expensive aviation fuel. Scores, perhaps several hundred, Russian tanks and armored vehicles have been damaged, destroyed or captured.

Some 300,000 refugees who have fled the fighting are also costing the government more than \$11 million a month, the Russian press reported.

In an analysis last week, The Moscow News said the economic costs of the war are likely to mount for months no matter what the result of the fighting is.

If the Russians defeat the Chechens decisively, trillions of rubles will have to be injected into the renegade region's economy to rebuild basic infrastructure and industry and to help resettle refugees, the paper said.

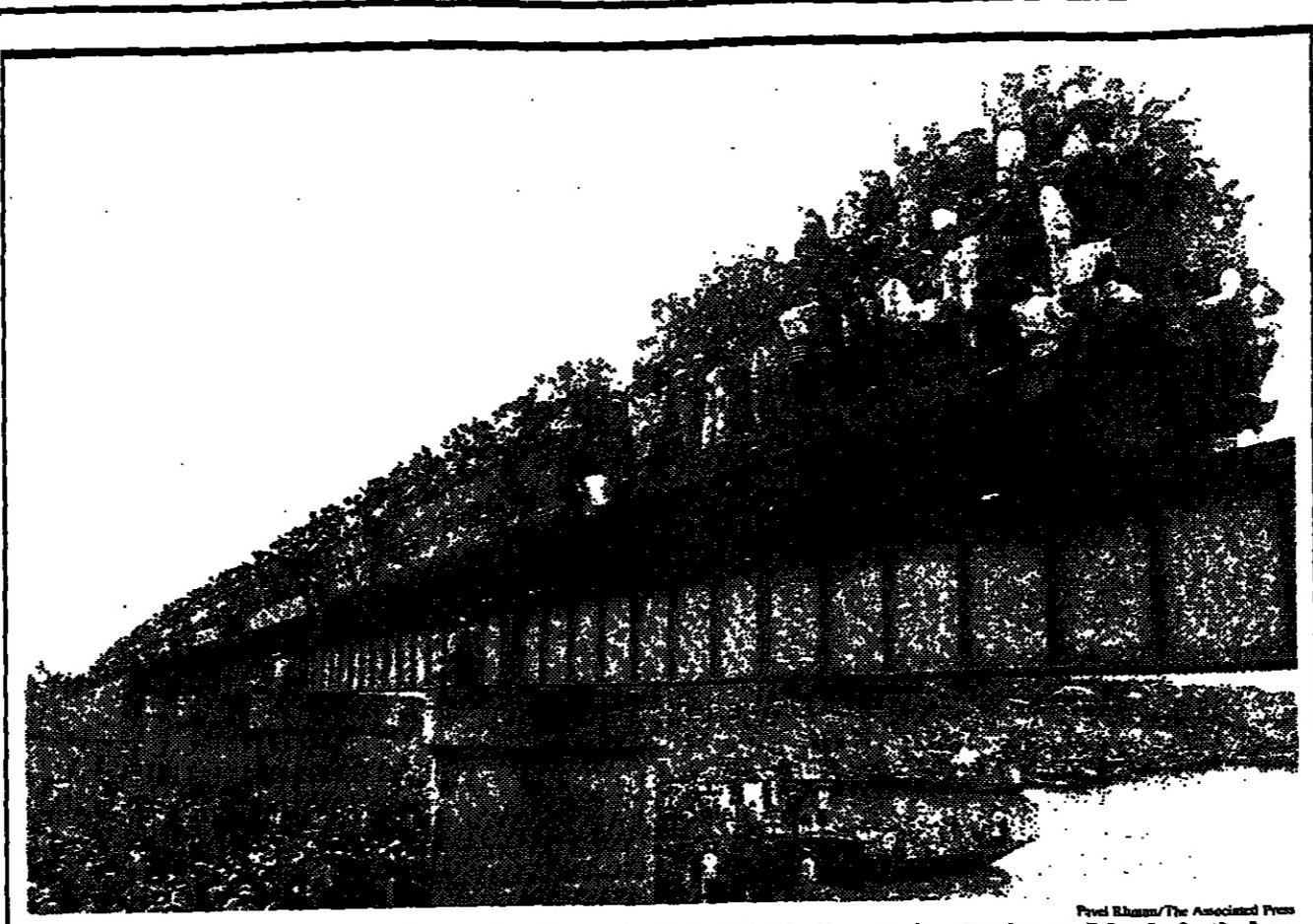
If the Chechens are not defeated soon, the paper added, Moscow may face the prospect of a long guerrilla war that could cost trillions of rubles and generate even more refugees.

The paper concluded: "In both cases the result will be the same: a collapsed budget, outlays above planned levels, higher inflation, cuts in all social programs. And the final result is social, economic and political crisis."

Explosion Kills 2 in Parma

Reuters

PARMIA, Italy — Two men died and five were injured Monday after an empty fuel truck undergoing repairs exploded near the northern Italian town of Parma, officials said.



BANGLADESH PILGRIM TRAIN — A train overloaded with Muslim pilgrims leaving an Islamic festival on Monday in Gazipur, Bangladesh, near Dhaka. A total of 4 million people attended the festival over three days.

ALGERIA: France and IMF Work to Get Aid to Embattled Government

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Camdessus, meanwhile, has been criticized by some Western officials and economists who follow Algeria for allegedly trying to ram through international funding programs in order to serve the policy interests of France, which ruled Algeria for 132 years and lost many lives in the war of independence, which ended in 1962.

One Western government official familiar with Mr. Camdessus's role in Algerian aid said it was "highly unusual" that the IMF chief personally handled last year's \$1 billion of IMF loans.

closedly on Algeria. "Over the past year, we and the French Treasury have been on the phone almost daily to discuss Algerian aid," he said.

In Paris, Edmond Alphandery, the economy minister, confirmed last week that he had frequently discussed Algeria

for an important trading partner and former colony. French authorities are also hoping to avert a flood of Algerian refugees.

Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister, warned recently that if financial aid to Algiers were suspended, "it would push the Algerian economy into chaos."

A French Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Monday that "the hope is that the aid given to Algeria is in the end helpful which goes to the Algerian people, and not to a regime."

Some officials compare the danger of an Islamic takeover to the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979. Bankers say, however, that while Iran repudiated some of the foreign debt dating back to the days of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, Tehran has honored other obligations and has tried increasingly to do business with foreign companies.

Anwar Haddam, a Washington-based spokesman for Algeria's Islamic Salvation Front, recently told the Petroleum Finance Company newsletter that the Islamic opposition would support an open, market-based economy. Mr. Haddam did, however, warn that his organization would consider "illegal" both the IMF accord and any contracts signed between the government and foreign companies after 1991.

Decision makers in France are facing an agonizing policy dilemma: how to foster a dialogue between Algeria's rulers and Islamic revolutionaries on the one hand while at the same time encouraging economic re-

RUSSIA: Yeltsin Orders 48-Hour Truce and Offers Amnesty to Rebels

Continued from Page 1

ing to force their way to the palace and the rebels throwing their strength into its defense.

The Russian attack was spearheaded by the infantry in a change of tactics from the disastrous tank assault that failed at the cost of heavy casualties over the New Year's weekend.

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Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The Yeltsin Problem

When the Russian foreign minister defends Moscow's military assault against the breakaway republic of Chechnya by comparing Boris Yeltsin to Abraham Lincoln, it is clear that Moscow is anxious about the small but savage confrontation in the Caucasus.

Andrei Kozyrev's desire to make the war more comprehensible to Americans is understandable. President Yeltsin's mishandling of the Chechen rebellion is sure to strengthen those who want to end American assistance and return to a strategy of containing rather than befriending Russia. That would be a mistake, but some recalibration of long-term American policy is warranted.

Recognizing that the brutality of the attack has undermined Mr. Yeltsin, Bill Clinton has urged him to end the killing of civilians and accept an offer from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to help mediate a political settlement. Moscow should not refuse.

Belatedly, Mr. Yeltsin says he is trying to put the military on a tighter leash and end the indiscriminate bombing of Grozny, the Chechen capital. Unfortunately, the army's sledgehammer approach has already dishonored the important principle that Moscow has a right to maintain the cohesion of the Russian Federation and, in extreme cases like Chechnya, may use limited military force.

But the White House must look beyond the Chechen crisis, for it has altered the political picture in Moscow and Washington. Like Mikhail Gorbachev, who lost political traction at home before he lost his job, and who remained the pivot of American policy toward the Soviet Union long after his leadership had become illusory, Mr. Yeltsin is in trouble before his country or the world is prepared to deal with the consequences. Secretary of State Warren Christopher can not wish away the problem with expositions of faith in Mr. Yeltsin.

Mr. Yeltsin has lost the support of moderate political leaders, narrowed his

circle of advisers and shed much of the moral authority he gained in his fight for reform. It is unclear how much control he retains over an army embarrassed by its performance in Chechnya and embittered by a loss of resources and stature. Mr. Yeltsin will find it hard now to rise above the fractious political forces in Moscow. His prospects for re-election in 1996 are declining. All this makes it essential that Washington have a Russia policy, not a Yeltsin policy.

While not writing off Mr. Yeltsin, President Clinton must avoid the sort of back hug that left President George Bush locked in Mr. Gorbachev's embrace.

American policy should be anchored in support of economic, political and military reform in Russia, and of the institutions and people making it happen. That means reaching out to other democratic leaders like Yegor Gaidar, the former prime minister, cementing ties already formed between American and Russian government agencies, and expanding exchanges between senior military officials.

Cutting off assistance is not in Russian or American interests. Subsidizing the dismantling of nuclear weapons in the former Soviet Union, one example, is an indispensable investment in post-Cold War security. Congress has appropriated \$1.27 billion for that purpose since 1992.

After long delay, the International Monetary Fund is negotiating intensively with Russia about providing \$13 billion desperately needed to help stabilize the economy and slow the inflation rate.

Delaying or conditioning the aid because of the Chechen conflict may have short-term political appeal; the one sure way to prevent the assistance from indirectly financing the war is to put it on hold. But further delay in helping to shore up the Russian economy would punish the Russian people for Mr. Yeltsin's error. If Mr. Yeltsin is truly committed to making Russia democratic, he must move quickly to end the war in Chechnya.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Go Back to Unesco

The United States has taken an unhappy turn on its way back to Unesco, which it left in 1984 because of that organization's gross politicization. In recent post-Cold War years, Unesco, by the General Accounting Office's and others' analysis, has reformed and fairly met the original American concerns. Why then, in 1995, does the U.S. government still shrink from returning? Partly it is because Unesco lost its place in the American budget queue. There is also a suspicion that the Clinton administration hesitates to take on a presumably skeptical Republican Congress for the sake of anything with "UN" in its name.

The budget question — it is a \$65 million expenditure — is real, but should not be the determining test if rejoining is a good idea. The presumed Republican skepticism needs to be dealt with openly. Many Democrats may also wonder whether there is good reason at all, let alone a national interest, whether the price tag is low or high, to rejoin an organization that it got along nicely without for 10 years. Unesco, let it be noted, survived, too.

The organization still has a reputation,

some of it deserved, for high Parisian living and programmatic gauziness. Its bureaucratic style and its employment practices need to be further refined. But even so, there are still some good reasons for American participation.

Unesco is essentially an organization in which educators, media people, scientists and the cultural crowd network. The networking used to come with an intolerable baggage of hostile ideology. Now it comes uncluttered and in the open style intended by Unesco's postwar American founders. The organization's most valuable programs inform professionals what work needs to be done in their countries to bring education, science and media up to international norms. This can usefully reinforce the internationalist thrust of many American public and private enterprises.

If the United States, the one global power, did not have available an instrument to extend its global cultural reach, it might want to invent a reformed Unesco. The project does not rise to the level of vital national interest, but it bears on the quality of international life. Rejoining would be a wise move.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

Executing the Innocent

Capital punishment is so fraught with the danger of executing innocent defendants that even its supporters worry about fatal miscarriages of justice. In New York, which may soon become the 38th state to restore the death penalty, leaders of the bar who argue for more safeguards include, along with lawyers who oppose executions, many who favor or do not oppose them.

New York's Legislature needs to heed these calls for care, as do the U.S. Congress and legislatures in states that already have executions. A congressional staff report cited 52 recent cases in which defendants had barely escaped execution only because civil rights lawyers and friends were able and lucky enough to discover evidence of innocence.

Walter McMillan, operator of a pulpwood business in Monroeville, Alabama, was on death row for six years until a court threw out his conviction, which had been based on perjured evidence.

In Texas, Randall Dale Adams came within three days of execution for a murder he did not commit, then languished for a decade in prison before the courts found that he had been framed.

Texas went further last week and executed Jesse DeWayne Jacobs for a murder that the state later blamed on someone else, a callous act that horrified even fans of the death penalty. The same

prosecutor who obtained his conviction told another jury that Mr. Jacobs did not fire the fatal shot.

Hard as it is to save defendants from injustice, it is harder still to prove that innocent persons have actually been executed. Yet a study by Hugo Bedau of Tufts University and Michael Radelet of the University of Florida argues that 350 defendants have been wrongly convicted of capital crimes and as many as two dozen have been wrongly executed. They prove, at the least, that scores of defendants have been convicted on flimsy evidence, denied exculpatory evidence in the prosecution's possession and treated unjustly by the legal system.

Society, no less than the accused, needs safeguards like adequate legal counsel, court review under fair standards of proof and guarantees of fairly selected juries. Few death penalty laws provide that minimal justice. New York's proposed law, blocked for 15 years by governors' vetoes, is notably bereft of such safeguards.

Capital punishment is itself barbaric, a penalty that is vengeful without protecting society. But a state that calls itself civilized yet elects to use the death penalty must do all it can to prevent the execution of the innocent. Otherwise its people cannot for long live with themselves.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Russia Can't Enter the Future by Turning to the Past

By Yegor Gaidar

MOSCOW — The bloody debacle unfolding in Chechnya is not a surprise. It is the inevitable result of a general switch of Russian policy, evident from the beginning of 1994, back toward an imperial mentality and toward the so-called strengthening of the state.

I resigned as first deputy prime minister at the start of 1994 precisely because I had failed to convince President Boris Yeltsin that such a course would lead to disaster.

He fully rejected my advice that only a firm and coherent commitment to market reforms could lead to a revival of economic growth and stability that would enable democracy to take hold over the long run.

Instead he took the opposite course throughout 1994. Economic stabilization efforts were cut short, the government took a more repressive stand on the domestic scene, and in foreign policy Russia moved away from the Western democracies and became more aggressive in dealing with neighbors in the "near abroad."

The Dec. 6 summit in Budapest of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, at which Mr. Yeltsin unleashed worries by speaking of a "cold peace," was a severe defeat for the advances that Russian foreign policy had made in recent years.

I am not aware of all the internal details of this turn of events during 1994. But having been in that situation before, I can imagine how various advisers insisted in their conversations with the president that "liberal traditions don't have roots in Russia" and that "it is high time to establish order and put your foot down."

The relative victory of Vladimir Zhirinovsky in the last elections gave added force to the argument that such reasoning accorded with Russian public opinion.

Apparently, there was no one left in his circle to warn the president that when someone in Russia talks in a trembling voice about "strengthening the state," it usually leads to a bloody mess, especially when it means that the government decides to resolve complicated and delicate ethnic problems by force. Now these same advisers make helpless gestures and claim that they didn't intend events to unfold as they have.

If my experience is any guide, the mechanism to shield those responsible then becomes engaged out of fear of the consequences of their actions. Usually that means trying to cover up the mis-

takes of the first venture by diverting attention with an even bigger one. In the days and weeks ahead, we must be very wary of what is to come on this score.

This whole dynamic has led Mr. Yeltsin to commit ever more tragic mistakes, which together now present a major threat to my country. I have already said publicly that the danger of a military coup cannot be ruled out.

The combat in Chechnya is, first of all, a major blow to the hard-headed unity of Russia. Only six months ago, one could say that all talk about dissolution of the Federation was irresponsible speculation by those who understood little. Today this menace has become serious.

Everybody understands that the government won't be able to undertake military action everywhere trouble pops up. The army has shown in Croatia that it is not very well prepared and organized.

That means that the central authorities are discredited. Faith in them has been undermined, and people look upon them as unreliable, unpredictable and dishonest.

Internationally, Russia is now looked upon with distrust because its direction and intentions are unknown.

If the president continues to deepen his misadventure by pursuing the policy

of settling the Chechen issue by force, Grozny will certainly fall, but with unacceptable large numbers of casualties. And after that only one thing is certain: a long-term guerrilla war, or at least a terrorist conflict, will paid for with the lives of our hapless young men.

While it is unlikely that an Islamic front will form against Russia, we can be sure that we will suffer violent hostility from within the Federation — not only from Chechnya but also from Ingushetia and the Chechen part of Dagestan.

The key to stopping this disaster from blowing up further is fully within the hands of President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. This is true not only according to the Russian constitution but also in the actual balance of political forces in the country.

I know they fear that, if we leave Chechnya now, Russia will disintegrate as the Soviet Union did. But they should ask themselves why did this not happen before. De facto, Chechnya became independent back in the autumn of 1991, when we still had a Soviet president.

Despite the secessionist declarations, Russia did not disintegrate in the intervening years, but became more unified and strong. So why suddenly bomb Chechnya now, in 1995? What changed?

One excuse for waging war now is that the crime problem emanating from networks in Chechnya has got out of control. True, there is such a problem. But it should be resolved by the ordinary means employed against criminals elsewhere. If we were to follow the logic of Mr. Yeltsin's advisers on this score, we would have to start bombing a host of Moscow suburbs where there are Mafia-type concentrations far more threatening to the daily life of ordinary Russians.

Certainly it is harder to get out of Chechnya now than it was before Dec. 16, when the chances for a peaceful resolution were irresponsibly squandered by Deputy Prime Minister Nikolai Yegorov, who was assigned to the negotiations.

Still, from the standpoint of Russia's overall interests, negotiations will yield better results than any resolution of the Chechen conflict that could possibly emerge from continued use of force.

Simply, there are other ways to think about the problem. Is Britain about to disintegrate because of its negotiations with the IRA? Will China disintegrate because it has not conquered Taiwan?

Like many other Russians, I can only hope that Mr. Yeltsin will see, as a result of this disaster, that the old methods cannot be applied to the new world; that Russia's future cannot be secured by a return to the habits of the past.

The way to begin changing course is by ridding himself of those advisers in the Defense Ministry and the National Security Council who pushed him beyond his best instincts.

This comment was translated by Genrikh Borovik for New Perspectives Quarterly.

Chinese Are Silenced but Russians Speak Out

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Which great power is more unstable, China or Russia? The quick answer is Russia. The elected leader, Boris Yeltsin, is besieged in Moscow after his bloody siege of Grozny, capital of the little breakaway republic of Chechnya.

Russian television showed vivid pictures of the bombing of that city even as it showed President Yeltsin saying it wasn't so; the cameras showed Mr. Yeltsin upbraiding his defense minister for making him look like a liar.

As Helmut Kohl telephoned to tell him that world opinion frowns on the savage method

his government is using to equate the future of democracy with the future of Mr. Yeltsin, who is on his last legs.

But consider the political miracle taking place in Moscow. An unpopular and unjust war is being denounced in the Parliament, with the reformer Grigori Yavlinsky openly calling for Mr. Yeltsin's resignation. The military is publicly divided between conscience-stricken warriors and hard-line incompetents. Free speech is spilling out all over.

The newspapers, after centuries of czarist and Communist docility, are crusading: a picture of Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is captioned "the most talentless commander in Russia." The television crews are bringing home the horror of the war just as American cameramen did in Vietnam, with similar impact on Russian public opinion.

This is wonderful. The world should be proud of the Russian people, who should be prouder of themselves for exercising their newfound freedom to debate a great issue.

Contrast that democratic contrast to the facade of "stability" in China. With the death of Deng Xiaoping imminent, the leadership is cracking down on dissidents.

By jailing its leading independent thinkers, the regime in Beijing reveals its inherent weakness. The new imprisonment of the courageous Wei Jingsheng, China's Sakharov, was the tip-off that the leadership fears a popular uprising.

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The newspapers, after centuries of czarist and Communist docility, are crusading: a picture of Defense Minister Pavel Grachev is captioned "the most talentless commander in Russia." The television crews are bringing home the horror of the war just as American cameramen did in Vietnam, with similar impact on Russian public opinion.

This shows again that succession in a Communist state, drawing on the legitimacy of free election, is a ruthless wrestle for power within an impenetrable clique.

It mocks the assurances of China's Western apologists that a market economy leads

to political freedom. In aitchi nutshell, here's the play.

Yang Shangkun, an old army leader whose powerful family was neutralized by Mr. Deng, is close to Admiral Liu Huaqing, the nation's top military leader. They may challenge Mr. Deng's protégé, party boss Jiang Zemin and Prime Minister Li Peng, by backing the economic chief, Zhu Rongji, or promoting a next-generation politician, Hu Jintao, or by backing Qian Shi, the former national security adviser and now chairman of the rubber-stamp People's Congress.

What do 1.2 billion Chinese have to say about all this?

Zilch. (Analysts in Beijing, aware of the exclusive accuracy of my prediction of Mao's successor in the '70s, will have to puzzle out "zilch.") And therein lies real instability.

A monolithic, totalitarian state, repressing the spirit of freedom, only seems secure; we have seen how it can suddenly collapse. A noisy, unruly democratic state, drawing on the legitimacy of free elections, is more secure — no matter how shaky the leadership.

That is why Russia is in better political shape than China.

The New York Times

Isolationism? Not Yet, but Americans Do Seem Angry at the World

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — Them: Is America going isolationist? Me: No. (Pause) At least, not yet. That is the short version of conversations with foreign visitors to Washington and of telephone talks with friends and colleagues abroad. The question is old for them. The pause and the qualifying "not yet" are new for me.

For other nations, Washington is Omphalos on the Potomac, the global navel that foreigners contemplate to discern the meaning and direction of world politics. The opening days of the Republican Revolution on Capitol Hill bring a tide of visitors from abroad with the l-word on their lips.

Fear of American isolationism always lurks near the surface in Europe and Asia. The conserva-

tive Republican takeover of Congress rekindles memories of the closed horizons of Smoot, Hawley, Taft and McCarthy. The world is anxiously taking the temperature of American internationalism, as it did two years ago when the governor of Arkansas was unexpectedly elected president.

Bill Clinton reassured America's political and economic partners in Europe, Asia and Latin America by getting behind NAFTA and GATT. But he and the Democrats got little if any credit for internationalism on Nov. 8.

This is one of the reasons for new tentativeness in my sense of where American attitudes about the rest of the world are going.

League in a prescient speech shortly after the election.

Mr. Yankelovich argued that this result is not inevitable. A renewed commitment to community and national civic organizations could yet convert "the threat of class warfare and social instability into something far more positive and constructive." But his projection that a paralyzing national instability is now possible will feed foreign fears that an internationalist America committed to world peace is a thing of the past.

Mr. Clinton's election was itself a sign that Americans feel a need to turn inward to fix the economy. Now, because of three treads that Mr. Yankelovich identifies, there is danger that this benign turning inward could harden into a bitter xenophobia fueling active isolationism.

"The majority of Americans are failing to participate in the benefits of economic growth," Mr. Yankelovich warns. Growth is based by career-limiting technology-driven downsizing and by "exporting jobs to Third World countries." He added: "The brutal reality is that in today's global economy employers can grow and be profitable by restructuring their operations to be less dependent on full-time, full-benefit employees."

No More a Pariah State But Tough Days Ahead

By Anthony Lewis

PRETORIA — For many white South Africans, Joe Slovo used to be a hate figure: a white man who led the Communist Party and planned guerrilla war against the regime. But when he died on Friday, newspapers printed respectful tributes to him as a negotiator who helped to create the new government and served as its minister of housing.

To visit South Africa is an adventure in the suspension of disbelief. Whites who used to bluster defensively about their country now ask eagerly, "How do you like the new South Africa?"

The world is wonderful. The end of apartheid liberated white South Africans as it did black. There is reason for euphoria. Not many societies — perhaps not any — have gone through so radical a political transformation with so little pain. But it is important to understand that the necessary process of social change has barely begun.

In a country with surplus electric generating capacity, 63 percent of all blacks live in homes without electricity. Many have no running water. High schools have just finished the school year. Econo-

mists say that of all South African graduates seeking work, only 5 percent to 7 percent will find jobs.

Land is a profound problem. Millions of blacks were forced off their land — not just 100 or 200 but 20 years ago, when the zealous machinery of apartheid ground on. Under the new constitution, a land claims commission will decide how to compensate them for the theft.

The victims of what was called "removal" from land were dumped in poor rural areas. You drive through beautiful farmland and then come to the Ciskei, one of those dumping grounds: bare ruined plots crowded with people. The Ciskei's population is nine times the carrying capacity of the land.

Or go to the suburbs of Durban. Squatters have built shacks right up against modern apartment buildings. What is to be done to house the desperate urban poor?

Education may be the most urgent need. The architects of apartheid deliberately degraded the education of blacks so they would be fit only to serve a white-supremacist system. As new economic opportunities grow now, the country will be short of trained talent.



Those are some of the problems facing the government of National Unity that emerged from last April's election. The question is whether it can tackle them without ending the present era of good feeling.

"This will be a more difficult year," Thabo Mbeki, the deputy president, said in a conversation. But he seemed confident that the government could begin to make real changes this year and still keep the country behind it.

Changes in policy will require changes in personnel — always a delicate business.

The police force, the civil service, broadcasting: They are a few of the areas where there

will have to be new people. It will not be easy to transform institutions long devoted to defending apartheid. But "even people in positions of power must understand that their happiness depends on change," Mr. Mbeki said.

What about the impoverished majority? I asked. Wouldn't it be hard for a government led by an African National Congress to hold the loyalty of its basic constituents when change can come only slowly?

"Not if they see something really changing," Mr. Mbeki replied: "Squatters will be prepared to wait if they see 300 new houses, even if none are for them — and if we con-

sult the people, and explain." There has to be strain as change comes. But the country has a blessing hardly imaginable even a few years ago: freedom. The horrors of detention without trial and secret-police savagery are gone.

There is a sense of the possible in South Africa. An American conservative, Caspar Weinberger, caught it when he visited here recently. He wrote in Forbes magazine: "South Africa is embarked on the most invigorating, hopeful voyage any country has attempted since the American Revolution — and we all have a moral obligation to help it succeed."

The New York Times

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Justice for Algerians

Regarding "Don't Look for Moderates in the Islamist Revolution" (Opinion, Jan. 4) by Peter W. Rodman:

Mr. Rodman offers yet another example of an analysis that refuses to come to grips with the underlying cause of the current violence in Algeria. Anyone who wants an end to the violence should first persuade the military junta in Algiers to step down and complete the electoral process that it so brutally truncated through a coup in January 1992. The Islamic Salvation Front, or FIS, which was poised for a resounding victory in that election, should be allowed to rule, if that is the wish of the people.

Mr. Rodman may have forgotten that for months, even after the FIS was robbed of its legitimate electoral triumph, it exercised a great deal of restraint and refrained from resorting to an armed struggle. It was only after the military junta began its harsh recession of FIS and its supporters that a military wing developed within the movement.

ALEXANDER EPSTEIN, Toronto.

Blind, Craven or Both

As a frustrated European, I may simply add this to the IHT's contributions to the Bosnia debate: Whether the Bosnian catastrophe results from intellectual blindness (the "tribal war" version) that politicians have somehow managed to sell to their publics), from sheer craveness, or from both, the verdict of history will be the same: A civilization that is no longer conscious of the values around which it grew, or which is no longer willing or able to fight for them, cannot hope to survive very long.

MICHEL MARCHETEAU, Paris.

Chechnya: Clinton Slips

As an expatriate American, I was greatly disappointed by the noncommittal policy of the Clinton administration toward Rwanda and Bosnia. This disappointment has become utter disgust at President Bill Clinton's support for Boris Yeltsin's handling of the Chechnya crisis. This irresponsible position was exemplified by the attempt by an official government spokesman to compare the conflict to the American Civil War. There are absolutely no grounds for such a comparison other than

blind attachment to international borders.

As any school child knows, the main cause of the Civil War was the South's determination to maintain the morally indefensible institution of slavery, and certainly not an attempt by a colonized people to throw off the domination of a decaying empire. To compare the United States with a colonial empire is to miss what America is about.

Chechnya is the perfect example of a land and people subjugated over the centuries by white conquest and attempted genocide by a giant neighbor.

MARC L. ROLLAND, Paris.

A Better Protectionism

Frederik Sunesson ("The Tide Lifts All Ships," Letters, Jan. 3) misses my point. Obvi-

ously we all have to adjust to the reality of Asian productivity. But how? Through the crude weapon of currency depreciation or the careful choosing of industries to support or discard? Either way we are being protectionist. But currency depreciation is not only a much cruder form of protectionism; it usually comes too late, after immense damage has already been done to a nation's industrial base and social fabric, as with Britain.

In the meantime, it is up to the vast majority of Muslims on this great Earth to come forward from their silence and declare to their misguided co-religionists, and to everyone else, the true nature of Islam.

THOMAS F. LEE, Cookham, England.

Fight the Propaganda

Those Serbian nationalists who are intent on destroying the rights and aspirations of Bosnian Muslims, and those non-Muslim individuals who

also know, and understands with genuine gratitude, that it was the United States that saved the world in World War II, and that French-American relations go much deeper, certainly eclipsing the blunders and ambiguities of American foreign policy.

PHILIPPE MALAURIE, Paris.

Found in the Cybernet

Regarding "Information Super-Thing: How Close Are We Really?" (Business/Finance, Jan. 2) by Brad Spurgeon:

I was sitting in the dining room at my hotel in Amsterdam reading the paper when I spied Mr. Spurgeon's Cybernet article. I really enjoyed it.

But it seems to me that for the Information Super-Thing to be of any use, we'll all need fiber optic cables to the doorstep and cheap connections. That probably won't happen.

THOMAS F. LEE, Cookham, England.

Thank you for Mr. Spurgeon's article.

However, I think he falls into a common trap by confusing the medium with the message. The recent hype over the World Wide Web, or WWW, serves only to distract people from thinking about the diverse types of information that traverse the Internet. Fundamentally, the Internet is simply a set of protocols that allow a global connected network to exchange information. The single most important application for most people is still plain old-fashioned electronic mail.

The obsession some have

with the commercialization of the Internet is a red herring. The Internet has been driven by commerce for a long time.

Mr. Spurgeon mentions that the Nerdix data base is connected to the Internet. I think this is exactly the point.

The Internet is a universal

medium so powerful that private data services are being forced to hook up. The fact that you have to pay for the information is assumed.

The key idea is that anyone

anywhere can connect to the data base using the vastly more efficient and more reliable Internet rather than paying for what could be an expensive long-distance phone call. No one should expect all information and services available over the Internet to be free.

STEPHEN MELVIN, Paris.

Voice From the Shadow

Regarding the report "U.S. Influence Eclipse French in Haiti" (Dec. 3):

Remember that the Americans have "eclipsed" the French before — in Saigon, Phnom Penh. Such grand successes! Fortunately, the world

is not yet dead. A civilization that is no longer conscious of the values around which it grew, or which is no longer willing or able to fight for them, cannot hope to survive very long.

GREGORY CLARK, Tokio.

Correction

A transmission error caused the loss of several lines in Flora Lewis's column "National Crisis: Russia's Fate in the Balance in Chechnya" (Opinion, Jan. 6). The passage should read: So long as he is left in charge, General Grachev's response is to become ever more fierce, but he can't be sure his orders will be executed. If Mr. Yeltsin can't even rely on the army, having disgraced his initial supporters, he can only look to his Kremelin court.

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An Innocent in Washington

By Rhoda Newman

WASHINGTON — In November 1867, Mark Twain was hired by William M. Stewart, the first senator from Nevada, as his personal secretary. The salary was \$6 a day. Twain, no stranger to political perks, thought the appointment could be made "one of the best paying berths in Washington."

In his "Reminiscences," published 40 years later, Senator Stewart described Twain's first visit: "I was seated at my window one morning when a very disreputable-looking person

were at the Senate? There are only the briefest indications in his letters. On Dec. 5, 1867, he wrote to Frank Fuller, who was trying to manage his appearances on the lecture circuit: "I can frank letters, now, very well, with that signature; yesterday I drew my first stationery, and did it without detection; in 10 days more I hope to be able to collect little dabs of mileage on it, & such things." One envelope has been found franked with Senator Stewart's name in Twain's handwriting, addressed to his sister Pamela.

Some months later he wrote an article for *Galaxy* entitled "My Late Senatorial Secretaryship," in which he spoofed the kinds of letters staffers were, and still are, supposed to answer.

When the senator handed him a constituent request for the establishment of a post office, Twain replied: "What the mischief do you suppose you want with a post office at Baldwin's Ranch? It would not do you any good. If any letters came there, you couldn't read them ... What you want is a nice jail."

A request came that a bill be introduced in Congress incorporating the Episcopal Church of Nevada. The senator asked Twain to reply that this was more properly under the jurisdiction of the state legislature. Twain's response:

"You will have to go to the State Legislature about this little speculation of yours — Congress don't know anything about religion. But don't try to go to either; because this thing you propose to do out in that new country isn't expedient — in fact, it is simply ridiculous. Your religious people there are too feeble, in intellect, in morality, in piety — in everything pretty much. You had better drop this."

After several other such letters, the senator shouted: "Leave the house! Leave it forever and forever, too." Twain concluded, "I regarded that as a sort of covert intimation that my services could be dispensed with and so I resigned."

Twain never worked another day on the Hill, but that didn't stop him from pulling strings — trying to get his brother appointed commissioner of patents or himself named postmaster of San Francisco or sent on a diplomatic mission to China. Finally, in March 1868, he decided to devote his time to writing and left "this city of shabby furniture and shabby food" without regret.

Years later, in his first novel, "The Gilded Age," co-authored with Charles Dudley Warner, he remembered Washington this way: "Everybody attached to himself an exaggerated importance, from the fact of being at the national capital, the center of political influence, the fountain of patronage, preference, jobs, and opportunities."

Senator Stewart considered Twain's material "bully," and proposed: "I'll appoint you my clerk at the

Style



Left to right, two fabrics inspired by Moroccan ceramics from Blue Home; Patrick Frey at the home decoration Biennale in an 18th-century-style tent made from Pierre Frey fabrics; Souleilado's mix-and-match geometric and flower print on cotton, and viscose and cotton plaid effect from Manuel Canovas.

There's No Place Like Home: The Biennale of Decoration

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Home is where the action is this week. But don't think that Parisians are cooing after the end-of-the-year festivities. Instead, France is celebrating the art of the home on a grand scale, with exhibitions that place the emphasis on upscale living known there as *la vie de château*.

Succulent swags of fabric forming a trio of tents made a dramatic statement at the opening Monday of the Biennale des Éditeurs de la Décoration. The tents formed the entrance to the stand of Pierre Frey and were inspired by the tented follies found in 18th-century gardens — if you owned a park rather than a backyard.

The Biennale — placed under canvas on Quai Branly while the Grand Palais is under repair — is a ritzy affair, launched with a series of parties, includ-

ing a tribute to American designers by Ambassador Pamela Harriman on Tuesday at the United States Consulate.

Later this week comes the Biennale show of arts of the table and objects of desire at the Porte de Versailles exhibition center (Jan. 13 to 17).

The Biennale (until Jan. 16)

is a celebration of fabric and the imaginative ways it can be woven, printed, colored and draped. The generosity of the materials and the wealth of ideas make it a gourmet feast for decorators and an indication of the major trends. With red on a field of yellow-gold dominant colors and fabrics designed to shimmer and shine, the effect is rich and rare. But the light and airy ambience and room settings suggesting holiday homes in exotic places (more Caribbean than Provence) prevent the show from turning into an orgy of opulence.

How to make old prints look

contemporary? The master colorist, Manuel Canovas dips into

archives for a print of a Dutch peasant scene, and then either

recolors it or reproduces it in its original ox-blood red, but as though it were new rather than faded. Or he takes an elephant hunt from India and makes it in subtle tones of ink blue on black or green with bronze.

If prints are not brought back from long ago, they come from far away: sailboats streaming across the ocean at Nobilis and Moroccan pots and tiles reworked as fabrics by the Florence-based Blue Home. Ceramics are a favorite theme from neoclassical vase patterns

through arabesques. (An exhibition of the history of Tunisian ceramics is on at the Institut du Monde Arabe until March 26.)

The modernity is in the mix, which can mean different periods put together as in a building itself.

"It's a mix of cultures," said Jean-Pierre Deméry of Souleilado, showing the way that a Beaujolais-red Provençal plaid or an enlarged toile de Jouy print work with a red-and-gold African motif. (The stand in-

cludes a couple of stuffed elephants.)

Nobilis serves up a cocktail of fabrics: five weaves and six colors thrown together in one room set in an artful and luxurious way. The mixes of color and print include sunshades as neat plaids, bold brush strokes of mimosa and formal roses. But there are also contrasts of surface textures: a synthetic cotton and polyester with the sheen of taffeta; silken rayons; shimmering flower-printed silk damask, and thick

dry velvet worked into stripes. Add to that, passementerie in the shape of a lyre as the ultimate in sophisticated decoration.

Is the tented bed with fancy pom-poms and dangling ropes really making a comeback? An exhibition of historical beds, "Rêves d'Alcôves," opens

Wednesday at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, showing the poster, to the 18th-century Polonaise and the Empire boat-

bed.

At the Biennale, Braquenie shows a splendid version of the lit à la Polonaise, in a print of rambling roses, while the stand of Madame Figaro is created as a clotted-cream tent that could pass for minimalist in the ornate surroundings.

"It is good," said Manuel

Canovas. "It does not have the charm of the Grand Palais, but it is very functional. And I think it is impressive to find a big professional space in the heart of Paris."

Is there a precise parallel between what is going on in high fashion and at the luxury end of the decorating market?

"The Arab influence — meaning arabesques, Moorish symbols and Orientalism — adds another layer of richness to sumptuous fabrics. But the materials only have to look as though they were plucked off the silk road on the way from Samarkand. Deschemaker uses modern, even futuristic fabrics

to get the effect: a viscose and cotton with moiré watermarks and a soft sheen in 22 colors at affordable prices: Lurex woven into its Scheherazade prints to give glitter, or a brushed cotton denim with a velvet pile.

Natural hand weaves (or rather the illusion of them) counterbalance the futuristic

high shine. The Irish collection of roughly woven linens printed with Renaissance arabesques from the Italian company Ebro makes an impressive cross-cultural mix. Missoni, with its magic carpets of pattern, is another Italian company showing its wares, while Christopher Norman with Groves Brothers fabrics leads the American contingent.

What do the exhibitors think of their new surroundings, which had a logjam at the entrance at Monday's opening?

"I find it a bit cold, but it is very spacious and once you are inside it seems fine," said Bettina Caignan, design director of Braquenie.

"It is a good atmosphere and space," said Souleilado's Deméry.

"It is good," said Manuel Canovas. "It does not have the charm of the Grand Palais, but it is very functional. And I think it is impressive to find a big professional space in the heart of Paris."

Is there a precise parallel between what is going on in high fashion and at the luxury end of the decorating market?

In both areas, borrowing from the past is endemic — although it seems more logical in the world of interiors to have a historical perspective, because period houses and apartments are part of the architecture of all Western countries.

The interest in folkloric and ethnic costume applies equally to decorating, where a new value is put on native handicrafts. But the impulse to create homes with the feel of other cultures and continents is also part of the desire to escape the harsh urban reality of most modern lives. Ethnic colors and designs add a little fantasy.

What Happened To Fake Fur?

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Where have all the fake furs gone? Gone to mark down every one? In Europe, snowdrops have sprouted and the first Valentines are appearing in store windows. But the fashion for faux fur that was given big play on designer runways has failed to materialize on the streets.

Sure there are furry trims on parkas — as there have always been. Yet trimmings on regular coats tend to be mock-mink (or maybe synthetic monkey), rather than the frankly fake fur in chemical colors that were a designer trend from Chanel to New York's Anna Sui.

On the Paris Left Bank on Saturday, fake furs were in evidence, on sale, in every other boutique. In New York, well before the holidays, Chanel's black-and-white fake-fur follies were on the mark-down racks.

Techno-bright fake furs sold like hot cakes early in the season, according to Françoise Montenay, Chanel's general manager, who says that the monkey-trimmed jackets were also bought by fans. The black and white did not move, but was anyway intended as a "fashion element" — a bit of fun. The violent colors were also deliberately designed by Lagerfeld not to look anything like real fur. They were, as ever, the icing sugar on top of the sensible best-selling Chanel suits.

Nicole Fischelis, fashion director of Saks Fifth Avenue, says that fake fur sold in the medium-price market, mostly as fur trims on outerwear. As a clothing fabric, it never happened. "It's the ongoing story about the gap between what's on the runway and what we sell," she says. "You have to ask how realistic all these trends are."



Fake fur by Lagerfeld for Chanel.

Suzy Menkes

BOOKS

TO MY CHILDREN'S CHILDREN

By Sindwe Magona. 167 pages. \$24.95; paperback, \$11.95. Interlink Books.

Reviewed by Mark Mathabane

FOR all the stories about the new South Africa, the plight of black women — who comprise 53 percent of the country's population head nearly two-thirds of the households and make up the majority of the poor and illiterate — continues to get short shrift. It's as if their problems had been solved by the abolition of white minority rule and the election of Nelson Mandela as president of a democratic South Africa. Yet nothing could be further from the truth. The problems of black women in South Africa cry out for articulation and resolution. They call for a recognition by the Mandela government that it is not enough to have enshrined women's rights in a progressive constitution. Those rights must be realized in daily life, through the empowerment of millions of women who fought, sacrificed and died with men in the national liberation struggle but in many ways still find themselves treated as second-class citizens. Published simultaneously with her short-story collection, "Living, Loving and Lying Awake at Night" (Interlink), Sindwe Magona's autobiographical "To My Children's Children" illuminates

the problems by showing how they evolved from the days when black traditional life was still uncomplicated by white racism.

Magona's memoir is a delightful, poignant, feisty and uplifting story that chronicles, in a refreshing and authentic voice, what it means to attain womanhood in a society where patriarchy and apartheid often conspired to degrade and enslave women economically, politically, and sexually. By interweaving major events in South Africa's history since the 1940s with memorable slices of her childhood, adolescence, motherhood and womanhood, Magona vividly illustrates how forced racial influx control, the homeland and migratory labor systems, anachronistic African practices such as lobola (bride price), witchcraft and polygamy have hurt women the most.

She provides us with a rare panoramic view of the South African political and social landscape, from the days when blacks still had rights under the liberal rule of Jan Smuts to the rise of Afrikaner nationalism and the inception of apartheid. For instance, in 1942 when Magona was born in the Transkei, home of the Xhosa tribe and of Mandela, she was regarded as a South African citizen. She became disenfranchised when the Afrikaners were swept into power in 1948 on a mandate of white supremacy.

Magona's memoir spans 23 years, beginning with a somewhat idyllic childhood of love and strong family ties in a "people-filled world" where it was almost impossible for an individual to be destitute in the sense of having no connections with a living soul. This nurturing environment instilled in her the values that became crucial to weather the onslaught that was to come: survival in the ghettos of Cape Town; constant police raids; dealing with apartheid's

Kafkasque bureaucracy of unjust laws; teenage motherhood; toiling as an underpaid and overworked teacher; the humiliation of working as a maid for bigoted whites; being abandoned, pregnant and the mother of two, by her husband; and, finally, her efforts at self-reliance by selling sheep heads as a delicacy.

As with so many black South Africans, education became a powerful weapon of hope for Magona. The credit for her acquiring this indispensable component of her liberation belongs to her father, who "suffered scorn and ridicule for educating a girl child."

Magona's book has a message for her children's children: that younger generations of blacks in South Africa and America never forget that freedom was dearly bought and that they must be its guardians and defenders. And in times of doubt and difficulty, they must draw from the hallowed memory of those who have gone before the vital strength and faith to sustain and inspire themselves, mindful that they too, as a link in a chain of hope that must never be broken, bear the responsibility of leaving behind memories of a life future generations will be proud of, and hopefully be inspired by.

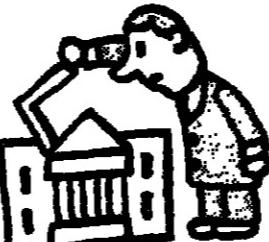
Gabriel Singson, governor of the Central Bank of the Philippines, is reading "Secrets of the Temple: How the Federal Reserve Runs the Country" by William Greider. "It's interesting because of my job, but the situation is different in each country." (Kevin Murphy, IHT)

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Gabriel Singson, governor of the Central Bank of the Philippines, is reading "Secrets of the Temple: How the Federal Reserve Runs the Country" by William Greider.

"It's interesting because of my job, but the situation is different in each country."

(Kevin Murphy, IHT)



Mark Mathabane, the author, most recently, of "African Women: Three Generations," wrote this for The Washington Post.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

JUDITH POLGAR beat Alexei Shirov in Round 8 in the Polugayevsky Tournament.

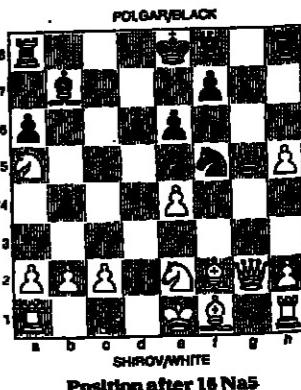
The thrust 6 g4 is especially aggressive at this juncture of the Sicilian Defense because it has no concrete target. Had Polgar presented one with 6...Nf6, then 7 g5 would have transposed into a Keres Attack, but instead, she followed a low-profile course of development with 6...a6 7 Be3 Nge7.

Had Shirov foreseen what was coming, he might have proceeded conservatively with 10 Bg2. Polgar met his mobilization for attack, 10 Qf3, with the sharp counterattack, 10...g5!, which sacrifices a pawn to obtain a knight outpost at the e5 square.

On 12 Qg2 b5 13 Ne2 h5!, it would have been more prudent for Shirov to play 14 g6 Bh6 15 Bb6 Rh6 16 O-O-O Qb6 17 Nbd4 Ng5 18 Rg1, although after 18...Rc8, Black would enjoy superior mobility and the initiative in return for the sacrificed pawn.

Shirov's 14 g5! let Polgar strike hard with 14...Nf5!, when 15 Bd2 Nh4 16 Qg3 Be4 17 Rg1 Nh5 would have thrown White for a loss in material. But on 15 Bf2, Polgar charged with 15...Qg5!, preparing to win back two pawns with great positional superiority after 16 Qg5 Ng5 17 Kd1 Ng3 followed by 18...Ne4 and 19...Rh5.

Shirov tried to fight out of that mess with 16 Na5, but Polgar struck a beautiful blow with 16...Ne3!. The first point being that 17 Qg5 mate. The second point was that 17 Be3 Qe3 creates the



Position after 18...Nf5

terrible threat of 18...Nf3 19 Kd1 Qd2 mate.

Accordingly, Shirov played 17 Qg3 and was forced to lose a rook for bishop after 17...Qg3 18 Ng3 Nc2 19 Kd1 Nf1 20

Polgar had no qualms about returning a pawn with 26...Bd6 because 27 Bd4 cd 28 Kd4 Ke7 would simplify the endgame into an easy victory for her.

After 29...Nc6, there could have come 30 Kc5 Kc5 31 bc Rfc8 32 Kc4 Nc5 33 Kd4 16 34 Ra3 Rc6 35 Bf1 Ng4 36 Kd3 Nh2 37 Be2 Rg8 38 Nf1 39 Bf1 Rg3 40 Kd2 a5 41 Ra5 Rgc3 with a routinely winning ending for Black. Shirov gave up.

After 29...Nc6, there could have come 30 Kc5 Kc5 31 bc Rfc8 32 Kc4 Nc5 33 Kd4 16 34 Ra3 Rc6 35 Bf1 Ng4 36 Kd3 Nh2 37 Be2 Rg8 38 Nf1 39 Bf1 Rg3 40 Kd2 a5 41 Ra5 Rgc3 with a routinely winning ending for Black. Shirov gave up.

SICILIAN DEFENSE

White	Black
1 e4	1 e5
2 Nf3	2 Nf3
3 Nc3	3 Nc3
4 Nf3	4 Nf3
5 Nc3	5 Nc3
6 Nf3	6 Nf3
7 Nc3	7 Nc3
8 Nf3	8 Nf3
9 Nc3	9 Nc3
10 Nf3	10 Nf3
11 Nc3	11 Nc3
12 Nf3	12 Nf3
13 Nc3	13 Nc3
14 Nf3	14 Nf3
15 Nc3	15 Nc3

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BUSINESS

International Herald Tribune, Tuesday, January 10, 1995

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120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

0

1994 A S O N D J 1995

Asia/Pacific Europe

Approx. weight: 32% US 62%

Close: 122.56 Prev: 120.56

150

140

130

120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

0

1994 A S O N D J 1995

Latin America

Approx. weight: 5% DOW 90%

Close: 93.52 Prev: 98.48

150

140

130

120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

0

1994 A S O N D J 1995

World Index

Approx. weight: 100% US 0%

Close: 110.57 Prev: 110.61

150

140

130

120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

0

1994 A S O N D J 1995

Industrial Sectors

Mon. close Prev. close % change Mon. close Prev. close % change

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Utilities 117.37 118.03 -0.56 Raw Materials 131.56 130.66 +0.69

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Services 107.79 107.70 +0.08 Miscellaneous 112.86 113.93 -0.94

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Warburg To Slash Its Bond Business

LONDON — S.G. Warburg Group PLC sounded a surprising retreat from the debt markets on Monday. In a dramatic attempt to rein in costs, it announced that it would exit the business of trading many foreign bonds and slash its fixed-income trading operation by 180 people in one of the biggest downsizings to hit the City of London financial district in years.

The move comes less than a month after Warburg abandoned its plans to merge with America's Morgan Stanley & Co., plans that it had unveiled only the week before. "For Warburg to downsize like this is quite a shock," said Johnny de la Hey, an analyst with Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull Securities. "Trading in the debt markets is a fairly serious cornerstone for global financial firms."

Warburg said that the cutbacks were designed to save £25 million (\$39 million) a year. Abandoned will be trading in such large-scale bonds as those of Germany, France and Italy. Instead the firm will hold on, in addition to its trading in British bonds, to those of the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

Warburg's chief executive, Lord Cairns, said a review of Warburg's fixed-income businesses over the last six months had "resulted in the decision that significant changes are necessary in this area."

In the City of London financial district, the question was what comes next to the chopping block at the firm.

In the United States, CS First Boston Inc. will lay off about 150 employees in the next two weeks as part of a wave of dismissals begun in the fourth quarter last year, Bloomberg Business News reported from New York. — ERIK IPSSEN

Japan Tastes U.S. Apples

By Paul Blustein
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — American apples finally made it into Japanese supermarkets on Monday after years of complaints from Washington that Tokyo was using ridiculously strict sanitation regulations to keep imports out.

Now, having passed extensive inspections, the U.S. apples are facing their final hurdle in convincing Japanese consumers like 62-year-old Takao Azuma.

Ms. Azuma, who is accustomed to the plump, juicy and generally flawless fruit produced in Japanese orchards, was shopping late Monday at a Tokyo supermarket shortly after it received one of Japan's first shipments of Washington state apples. As a battery of TV cameras zeroed in and reporters hovered close with pens poised, Ms. Azuma sampled a slice of Golden Delicious.

"It's a bit sour," she declared with a grimace. But Red Delicious, she said, were "sweet and tasty." Delighted with the low price of about 50 yen (30 cents) apiece, she bought five.

So began the latest effort by an American industry to rack up sales in the world's second-largest economy, and so ended a trade dispute that has been highlighted by frequent allegations that Japan's market is full of well-disguised import barriers.

The Agriculture Ministry, while proclaiming the apple market open in 1971, barred all but limited imports of Korean apples in subsequent decades on the grounds that most imports were not sufficiently protected

against pests and plant diseases that might harm Japan's pristine orchards.

But the United States and other apple-exporting countries argued that Japan's regulations were far more stringent than any other country's, and that the real reason was a desire to protect Japan's politically powerful apple growers.

U.S. trade officials cited the apple-import regulations as an unfair trade barrier 10 years ago, and President Bill Clinton's administration turned up the heat substantially, backed by congressional representatives from Washington state. The administration acknowledged that the sale of U.S. apples in Japan would barely make a dent in the two countries' \$60 billion trade imbalance but asserted that the Japanese regulations constituted a particularly offensive example of back-door protectionism.

Japanese authorities responded by permitting imports of New Zealand apples last summer, and in August they said they were satisfied that certain Washington state orchards had taken sufficient measures to eliminate dangers from viruses and moths. The first boatloads of apples from those orchards cleared customs Monday.

The biggest problem facing American apples is that the Japanese Fuji variety is, by universal accord, has much more flavor. Japanese growers go to extravagant lengths to give Fujis even-colored skin and firm texture, often wrapping each apple while still on the tree.

In addition, American Delicious apples are expected to sell at 70 to 80 cents apiece, or much less than the price of about \$1 for ordinary small Japanese apples.

France Presses for TV Quotas

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The French government stepped up its campaign to tighten quotas on European television programming on Monday, promising to press ahead with a tough legislative proposal next month despite calls from industry and politicians

and the incoming EU commissioner for culture, Marcelino Oreja, to skirt a requirement to show a minimum of 51 percent European programming.

"We want flexibility on condition that there will not be fewer European works in five years than there are today," said Sir Leon Brittan, the trade commissioner. The new proposal would prohibit television stations from reducing the percentage of European programming below levels recorded in 1994.

Aides to Mr. Toubon and Mr. Oreja said the proposal would be stricter than one that was blocked as too rigid last week by Sir Leon Brittan, the trade commissioner. The new proposal would prohibit television stations from reducing the percentage of European programming below levels recorded in 1994.

French officials said that clause was needed to toughen the previous proposal, which would give broadcasters some

leeway to skirt a requirement to show a minimum of 51 percent European programming.

"We want flexibility on condition that there will not be fewer European works in five years than there are today," said Sir Leon Brittan, the trade commissioner. The new proposal would prohibit television stations from reducing the percentage of European programming below levels recorded in 1994.

Aides to both men said Mr. Oreja intended to launch a debate on the proposal at one of the new commission's first meetings in February. That would allow European Union culture ministers, who must enact any legislation, to begin discussing it at a meeting in Bordeaux, France on Feb. 13.

Grand Met Likes Mexican Flavor Of Pet's Brands

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Grand Metropolitan PLC jumped into the fast-growing U.S. ethnic foods market on Monday, announcing that it had agreed to buy Pet Inc., the maker of Old El Paso Mexican foods and Progresso soups, for \$2.64 billion.

For Britain's Grand Metropolitan, the world's largest alcoholic beverage company, the deal with Pet marked its largest acquisition since 1989, when it paid \$3.2 billion (\$5 billion) for Pillsbury Co. Now, as then, the news received a poor reception on the stock market. Shares of Grand Met fell nearly 7 percent on Monday, to 379 pence.

Analysts said investors were concerned about Pet's premium price. They noted that at \$26 per share, it is being bought for the equivalent of 23 times the earnings posted last year. Pet's shares were up \$5.375, at \$25.50, in late trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Grand Met said it would pay for the acquisition by issuing up to \$720 million in convertible notes, with the remainder of the price being funded out of existing cash resources.

Analysts also expressed concern over the effect of the deal on Grand Met's debt. The deal would raise Grand Met's net debt to \$3.3 billion, making its debt-to-equity ratio 1-to-1.

Still, many observers lauded the deal as giving Grand Met an important window on one of the few fast-growing food segments in the United States — ethnic, and particularly Mexican, foods.

"Yes, Pet looks expensive, but so did Pillsbury when they bought it, and Grand Met has turned that into a first-class business," an analyst in London said.

One problem Grand Met will have to overcome is the lackluster performance of Pet's Old El Paso and Progresso products.

which have been losing U.S. market in recent years.

"If Grand Met can get the marketing right, they should be able to grow those brands by 10 percent a year in the U.S.," predicted Charles Winston, an analyst with Morgan Stanley & Co. in London.

In America, analysts noted that in spite of maintaining profit margins well above the

norm, Pet's sales in the past three years have been flat. "It has been one of those companies where you change the year and just keep your revenue estimates," said Tim Rooney, an analyst with C.J. Lawrence in New York. "The problem with Pet was that they had good brands but did not have enough pockets and the scale to play very aggressively."

The Grand Met takeover is widely seen as addressing those problems. The deal would merge Grand Met's Pillsbury with Pet, forming a combined company with annual sales of about \$5.6 billion, which would make it the seventh-largest U.S. food company.

That leap in the ranks from 14th position would put Pillsbury/Pet just ahead of Campbell Soup Co., which just last month made a grab for a part of the Mexican food market with the \$1.1 billion purchase of Pace Foods Ltd., the leading U.S. salsa maker.

■ Unilever Buys Dairy Firm

Unilever PLC, a British food distributor, said Monday it acquired Prodipal, a French yogurt producer, and intends to buy Videl SA, a low-fat spread maker, for a total of \$65.1 million, Bloomberg Business News reported.

Traders are preparing for a sale of bonds expected later this year that is rumored to be worth 150 billion yuan (\$17.7 billion).

The conditions under which this year's sale will proceed should provide many clues to how Beijing intends to cool a market gone red hot in recent months, analysts said. Answers will emerge when the National People's Congress, China's parliament, convenes in March to finalize plans for the 1995 issue.

Relatively few bonds are ac-

quired.

See CHINA, Page 13

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

The Real Lesson of Mexico's Crisis

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — The sound of investors baying in anger over lost money is never attractive. It is particularly unattractive when they are blaming someone else for their own bad judgment.

So it is not hard to sympathize with Mexico's new president, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon, who has been the whipping boy of much of the U.S. and world financial community since he was forced to devalue the peso just before Christmas.

This, of course, is the same financial community that until three weeks ago, had been touting Mexico as one of the world's most desirable investment havens — one reason, perhaps

MARKET DIARY

Inflation Data Keep Big Board on Edge

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatchers

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks were mixed in a cautious market on Monday as a sagging dollar and nervousness about upcoming inflation data drew strength from the market.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which had risen by 16.49

U.S. Stocks

points on Friday, closed 6.06 points lower at \$3,661.35.

Trading volume totaled 278.72 million shares, down from

308.07 million on Friday.

"The market's hesitation today is the market's way of showing respect for the producer price report coming tomorrow," said Alfred Goldman, director of market analysis for A.G. Edwards.

Computer shares rose on anticipation of strong fourth-quarter Motorola results, which were released after trading

closed to show a rise to \$515 million in the fourth quarter from \$340 million a year ago.

Motorola rose 3/4 to 53 3/4 while Intel climbed 1 to 66 and AMD rose 3/4 to 58 3/4.

Food shares posted some of the largest gains after Pet agreed to be acquired by Britain's Grand Metropolitan. Pet shares rose 5/8 to 25 1/2 with nearly 16 million shares traded, making it the most actively traded stock on Monday.

The agreement spurred active trading in other food stocks viewed as potential takeover candidates. H.J. Heinz rose 3/8 to 39, Quaker Oats climbed 1 1/2 to 32 1/2 and CPC International rose 3/8 to 51 3/8.

Unilever's American depositary receipts, meanwhile, surged 2 to 117 1/4 since it no longer is a possible buyer of Pet and will not suffer dilution.

(Bloomberg, AP)

DOLLAR: U.S. Fed Supports Peso

Continued from Page 1
point rose to \$1.5635 from \$1.5495.

A similar swoop, from which the dollar had been just recovering, took place 10 days earlier, when word of the Mexican rescue package first reached financial markets. Foreign governments led by the United States, are assembling an \$18 billion emergency loan package to help stabilize the peso, which has lost more than one-third of its value against the dollar in the past month.

From that package, Mexico on Monday drew \$500 million from the United States and \$83 million in Canadian dollars to help replenish its foreign exchange reserves, which had fallen about 10 percent this year as it battled its financial crisis.

"They'll have to offer better terms than that and a guarantee as well," said Scott Kalb of Smith Barney, Shearson Inc.

"They are going to have to spend their reserves to pay off their foreign debt and that will mean no money for new investment all this year. Nobody is going to ride to the rescue."

Yen Rises on Export Sales

The dollar fell sharply against the yen Monday amid speculation that the United States would increase pressure on Japan to open its markets to U.S. goods. Bloomberg Business News reported from London.

Most of the dollar's slide came after Walter F. Mondale, the U.S. ambassador to Japan, said the United States would impose trade sanctions on Japan if trade talks failed. Mr. Mondale spoke in Washington, where negotiations with Japan are being held.

Selling by Japanese exporters also dragged down the dollar, traders said.

Japan's \$60 billion annual merchandise trade surplus with the United States gives Japanese exporters a plentiful supply of dollars they must convert to yen to bring money home.

by the U.S. government, were trading Monday at a yield of 12.92 percent — or about the yield that is being discussed for new bonds to help roll over Teobonos, or Mexican government debt linked to the dollar.

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Agence France Presse Jan. 9

— Class Prev. Close Prev.

Amsterdam

ABN Amro N.V. 16.69 16.40
ACF Holdings 34.65 34.65
AEGON 20.25 20.25
Akzo Nobel 26.21 26.21
Axa 25.20 25.20
Blaeu Westland 12.75 12.75
DSM 12.70 12.70
Fokker 11.40 11.30
Fortis AMEV 7.20 7.20
GVB 27.50 27.50
Hollandsche 25.20 25.20
HVB 27.50 27.50
HypoVereinsbank 11.20 11.20
HSBC 12.70 12.70
Intertel 11.20 11.20
KLM 12.70 12.70
KNP BT 46.40 46.30
Nestle 12.70 12.70
Ode Griften 76.40 76.40
Philips 25.20 25.20
Pohjola 11.20 11.20
Rabobank 11.20 11.20
Rabomil 11.20 11.20
Royal Dutch 11.20 11.20
Santander 12.70 12.70
Unilever 22.20 22.20
Vivendi 12.70 12.70
Vivendi Universal 12.70 12.70
Previous: 11.20

Airbus Outpaces Boeing Orders For First Time

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOULOUSE, France — Airbus Industrie announced Monday that it had won more orders in 1994 than the rival Boeing Co. of the United States.

The four-nation European aircraft consortium said it received 125 orders for new passenger jets in 1994, up from 38 orders in 1993. It suffered 54 cancellations of previous orders last year, compared with 69 cancellations in 1993. Airbus said the new orders in 1994 were worth \$9.1 billion.

A spokesman for Boeing in Seattle told the International Herald Tribune the company had received orders for 120 aircraft. The total value of these orders was \$7.5 billion, he said.

Airbus delivered 123 planes last year, generating revenue of \$8.5 billion, down from \$8.7 billion in 1993.

Jean Pierson, president of Airbus, said he hoped the European consortium would be able to surpass Boeing in the number of planes sold again in 1995.

He stopped short of proclaiming a recovery in the global aircraft industry. The aircraft market has been in a severe slump since 1990, though last year was significantly better than 1993.

Mr. Pierson said he hoped Airbus would capture 50 percent of new orders for aircraft worldwide this year.

Airbus is believed to have about 35 percent of the world commercial jetliner market, while Boeing has about 60 percent and McDonnell Douglas Corp. about 5 percent.

NYSE

Monday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

	12 Month High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	1994 High	Low	Last Chg
A	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
B	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
C	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
D	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
E	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
F	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
G	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
H	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
I	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
J	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
K	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
L	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
M	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
N	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
O	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
P	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
Q	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
R	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
S	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
T	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
U	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
V	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
W	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
X	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
Y	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00
Z	125.00	122.75	AT&T	.00	0.00	15.0	125.00	122.75	+1.00

New Low in Bank Battle Deals Cost UBS Investors \$6 Billion

By Nathaniel C. Nash
New York Times Service

FRANKFURT — A battle for control of Switzerland's largest financial institution, Union Bank of Switzerland, has entered a new stage, causing a loss of confidence in the bank and leaving investors with paper losses of \$51.8 million.

Airbus got a big boost on Dec. 29, when it announced that International Lease Finance Corp. had placed firm orders for 30 aircraft and had taken options on 10 more. Analysts estimated that the deal was worth up to \$1.8 billion.

Airbus said that its order backlog at the end of 1994 was 615 aircraft, worth around \$51.8 billion.

Because the consortium is backed by four separate governments, Airbus does not publish net earnings.

Mr. Pierson refused to provide numbers on profitability, but said that the consortium made an operating profit in 1994 for the fifth year in a row.

The Airbus consortium is comprised of Aerospatiale of France, British Aerospace PLC, Construcciones Aeronauticas SA of Spain and Deutsche Aerospace AG of Germany.

Mr. Pierson said Asia was the only region from which it expects strong orders in 1995, for both Airbus and Boeing.

He stopped short of proclaiming a recovery in the global aircraft industry. The aircraft market has been in a severe slump since 1990, though last year was significantly better than 1993.

Mr. Pierson said he hoped Airbus would capture 50 percent of new orders for aircraft worldwide this year.

Airbus is believed to have about 35 percent of the world commercial jetliner market, while Boeing has about 60 percent and McDonnell Douglas Corp. about 5 percent.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

million registered Union Bank shares held by Mr. Kipp — those where voting power is restricted to Swiss residents — and that the loss has been only part of the cost of winning its takeover battle against Mr. Ebner.

Adding spice to the story is the fact that Mr. Kipp was among the largest clients of Mr. Ebner's bank, BZ Bank of Zurich, and that the very shares Union Bank agreed to buy from Mr. Kipp were on deposit at BZ Bank.

In November, by a tiny margin, Union Bank's management won a proxy battle with Mr. Ebner that will permit the bank to strip its registered shares of their voting advantage. The shares — which carry a nominal value of 20 Swiss francs, one-fifth the 100 francs of the bearer shares — now have one vote, as do the bearer shares. The registered shares also trade at about one fifth of the price of the bearer shares, which rose 10 francs, to 1,042 on Monday; the bearers ended up, at 235. Both have fallen about 20 percent since November.

Having lost the proxy battle, Mr. Ebner plans to challenge the legality of trimming the registered shares' voting power.

■ **BK Vision, Largest Shareholder, Sues**

BK Vision filed suit against the bank Monday, challenging the legality of the bank's capital reorganization. Bloomberg Business News reported from Zurich.

On Friday, Union Bank said it planned a countersuit seeking 150 million Swiss francs (\$115 million) from BK Vision for possible harm caused by the investment fund's legal action.

BT Plans German Pact With VIAG

Bloomberg Business News

MUNICH — VIAG AG and British Telecommunications PLC on Monday appeared ready to announce an alliance that would expand the German utility's telecommunications business and give BT an entry into the German market.

The companies scheduled simultaneous press conferences for Tuesday. Neither would confirm reports of a possible alliance, but neither denied it.

Under current rules, BT would be permitted to run data services for businesses in Germany. Voice traffic, by far the most lucrative service, would be permitted as long as it serves only the internal voice requirements of a company, including its customers and suppliers.

British Telecom would be taking on Deutsche Telekom AG, Germany's state-owned telephone monopoly, on its home turf. Together with its U.S. partner, MCI Communications Corp., BT would be facing off against an alliance between Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom and Sprint Corp.

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
2300	3300	2100
2200	3200	2000
2100	3100	1900
2000	3000	1800
1900	2900	1700
1994 A SON D J 1994 1995 A SON D J 1994 1995	1994 A SON D J 1994 1995 A SON D J 1994 1995	1994 A SON D J 1994 1995 A SON D J 1994 1995
Exchange Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close % Change
Amsterdam AEX	414.52	415.17 -0.16
Brussels Stock Index	7,225.38	7,205.50 +0.26
Frankfurt DAX	2,059.18	2,053.50 +0.28
Frankfurt FAZ	770.77	767.68 +0.40
Helsinki HEX	1,830.51	1,835.75 +2.37
London Financial Times 30	2,348.90	2,358.10 -0.39
London FTSE 100	3,055.80	3,065.00 -0.30
Madrid General Index	279.57	284.92 -1.88
Milan MIBTEL	10,980	10,279 -1.84
Paris CAC 40	1,864.22	1,866.40 -1.18
Stockholm Alfaaervaarden	1,863.16	1,889.34 +0.20
Vienna ATX Index	1,037.84	1,046.36 -0.81
Zurich SBS	923.09	924.83 -0.19

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• Saatchi & Saatchi Co. received resignations from three executives following the departure of Maurice Saatchi.

• General Electric Co.'s NBC launched a business channel in Europe, following Reuters Holdings PLC and ahead of similar services planned by Dow Jones & Co., the British Broadcasting Corp. in conjunction with Pearson PLC, and Bloomberg Business News. NBC said it also intended to start a business television service in Asia in May.

• Saudi Arabia's financial austerity program has slashed its foreign debt to \$15 billion from \$40 billion.

• Glaxo PLC said its ulcer drug Zantac, the world's biggest selling prescription medicine, has been cleared by the British government for sale over the counter.

• Trafalgar House PLC, which launched a hostile bid for Northern Electric PLC in December, confirmed it has the backing of the necessary 10 percent of Northern Electric shareholders to convene a shareholders' meeting of the target company that may change rules limiting maximum share ownership to 15 percent.

• Banco Comercial Portugues said it was launching a second takeover attempt of Banco Portugues do Atlantico.

• Philips Electronics NV said it planned to buy a majority stake in the state-owned Polish lamp factory Polam Bielsko.

• SEAT, the troubled Spanish unit of Volkswagen AG, is to be struck by workers on Tuesday in the first of two planned one-day strikes.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP, AP, AP

East's First English Daily Closes Shop in Prague

By Jane Perlez
New York Times Service

WARSAW — The first English-language daily newspaper in Eastern Europe has folded after only six weeks, with the publisher conceding that the paper had failed to find enough readers in Prague.

"We thought we had a magic formula for capturing all the diplomats and businessmen in town," said the publisher, Erik Best, who also publishes a daily fax news summary of items ap-

pearing in the main Czech newspapers. "We got their attention but not their readership. They knew about it but were not reading it."

NYSE

Monday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to
the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect
late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

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U.S./AT THE CLOSE

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1995

The image is a black and white advertisement. At the top, the words "PLANE PAPER" are written in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, there is a graphic of a fax machine and a stack of papers. The fax machine is on the left, and the papers are stacked to its right, showing a document with text and a stamp. In the bottom right corner, there is a block of text: "Fast, Reliable Communication" above "Panafax UF-321" and "INK-JET PRINTING" below it. At the very bottom, the word "Panasonic" is written in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with "PLAIN PAPER FAX" in a slightly smaller font directly beneath it.

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Foreign Will Bran into Bei

Foreign Banks Will Branch Into Beijing

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING — Several foreign banks will soon be able to open branches in Beijing, a top executive at the Chinese central bank said Monday, but he contradicted an official news report that the branches could operate only with a Chinese partner.

At the moment, there are about 130 foreign-funded banks in China operating in 13 cities, including Shenzhen, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Dalian. But in Beijing, the government only allows representative offices to be opened.

Di Weiping, deputy director of the foreign affairs department

said the People's Bank of China, the central bank was "in the process of selecting among several dozen foreign banks" those that would be allowed to open branches in Beijing.

"We have received the general authorization from the state council," Mr. Di said. "It will take at least weeks, or a couple of months, before we announce our decision."

He said a limited number of banks, perhaps three or four, would be allowed to open branches in the first phase of the plan. The central bank will try to balance its selections among banks from North America, Asia and Europe.

"We need time to build up a supervisory capability in Beijing," Mr. Di said. "We are thinking of introducing more systematic licensing procedures after the first phase."

He called a report that foreign banks would only be allowed to open a Beijing branch with a Chinese partner, carried by the official Xinhua news agency, a "misunderstanding."

"We are not going to consider this issue for the moment," he said.

■ Yuan May Beat Target

China might make its currency freely convertible by 1998, two years earlier than Beijing's current target date, Agence France-Presse reported from Hong Kong.

Chen Yun, a deputy governor of the People's Bank of China, told the Hong Kong China News Service that it remained Beijing's plan to make the yuan fully convertible by 2000. But he "optimistically estimated" the goal could be realized by 1998, the semi-official Chinese news agency reported.

India Bank Puts Off Sale

Politics Delay Record Equity Offering

Agence France-Presse

NEW DELHI — The Industrial Development Bank of India has postponed plans to raise 21.84 billion rupees (\$369 million) in India's largest-ever equity offering.

The issue, which was to have been launched Jan. 27, is being put off until pending parliamentary approval, the state-owned bank said Sunday. The Industrial Development Bank, India's largest long-term lender to industry, did not set a new date for the sale.

Parliament, during its brief winter session last month, had been scheduled to give the green light for the bank to restructure its capital base by approving an amendment to the bank's constitution.

But political turmoil over a sugar-import controversy, which prompted the resignation of three cabinet ministers, delayed ratification of the amendment by parliament's upper house. Approval will now have to wait for a budget session due to be held in February.

Directors of the Industrial Development bank met in Bombay on Sunday and de-

cided to postpone the share offering, newspapers reported Monday.

The federal cabinet said last week it would issue an ordinance enabling the bank to go ahead with the offering, so investors were stunned by the last-minute postponement, the newspapers reported.

The ordinance would, how-

Ballot Worries Stock Market

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW DELHI — Indian stocks fell for the fifth straight day on concern that the government may lose state elections and slow its program to liberalize the economy.

The national stock exchange index fell 1.4 percent, to 1,776.29. The index has fallen more than 3 percent in 1995.

Meanwhile, the Securities and Exchange Board of India said the country's stock markets were vulnerable to price manipulation.

(Bloomberg, AFP)

ever, have expired March 31, the last day of the financial year, and the bank's management was not confident it would be able to complete the allotment of shares to investors by that date, they said.

■ Partial Privatization

The government on Monday offered investors up to 10 percent equity in six profit-making public-sector companies as part of a cautious privatization program.

Prospective buyers were invited to bid for shares in Indian Oil Corp.; Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd., the overseas telecommunications service that also is raising money via a public stock issue; Gas Authority of India Ltd.; Indian Tourism Development Corp.; Engineers India Ltd., and Kudremukh Iron Ore Co.

Bidding will open Wednesday and close Jan. 21. Between 5 percent and 10 percent of the paid-up capital of the six companies will be sold.

Foreign institutional investors licensed to operate in India, overseas corporations and Indians living abroad will be eligible to bid.

CITIC Aims

For Control

Of Miner

In Australia

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	7,528.88	7,663.25	-2.01
Singapore	Straits Times	2,161.66	2,209.37	-1.25
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	19,444.92	19,518.45	-0.38
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	937.05	955.43	-1.92
Bangkok	SET	1,347.99	1,363.10	-1.11
Seoul	Composite Stock	988.32	988.90	+0.96
Taipei	Weighted Price	6,889.06	6,915.40	-0.67
Manila	PSE	2,704.98	2,756.22	-1.86
Jakarta	Stock Index	477.04	481.22	-0.87
New Zealand	NZSE-40	1,911.36	1,903.53	+0.41
Bombay	National Index	1,776.29	1,801.38	-1.30

Sources: Reuters, AFP

International Herald Tribune

China to Reduce Trademark Time

Reuters

BEIJING — China, facing a trade war with the United States over infringement of patents and copyrights, said Monday that it planned by next year to have cut the time for registering a trademark to 12 months from 20.

A computer network of trademark management will become operational in 1996, Xinhua news agency said, quoting Wang Zhongfu, head of the State Administration of Industry and Commerce.

China last week ordered a national boycott of pirated goods, intensifying a campaign to avert a potentially disastrous trade war with Washington. Piracy is central to the deepening rift between Beijing and Washington, which on Dec. 31 threatened to punish China with tariffs on \$2.8 billion worth of its exports starting Feb. 4 unless it acted to meet U.S. concerns.

■ Yuan May Beat Target

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Chen Yun, a deputy governor of the People's Bank of China, told the Hong Kong China News Service that it remained Beijing's plan to make the yuan fully convertible by 2000. But he "optimistically estimated" the goal could be realized by 1998, the semi-official Chinese news agency reported.

Korea Bans Aliases in Land Deals

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

tions launched last year and is also a remarkable measure to achieve economic justice," the president told a meeting of economy-related ministers. He was referring to a ban on aliases for all bank, insurance and other financial transactions put in place in 1993.

That move is credited with shutting down much of South Korea's huge underground economy, which analysis said

accounted for about 30 percent of the whole economy.

The ban on aliases in the real estate sector will start July 1 and will make the market "fairer and cleaner," said Hong Jae Hyung, the minister of finance. The measure is not for punishing past deeds, but for establishing correct real estate practices for the future," Mr. Hong said.

(AP, AFP)

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The ban on aliases in the real estate sector

NASDAQ

Monday's 4 p.m.
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

AMEX

Monday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to
the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect
late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks with the current week, but not the latest trading week where a split or stock dividend amounting to 25 percent or more has been paid; the year's high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stock only. Unless otherwise noted, ratios of dividends are annual distributions based on the latest declaration.

— dividend yield extra(s),
— annual rate of dividend plus stock dividend.

c — liquidating dividend.
cid — called.
cmt — carryover basis.

d—new yearly issue.
e—dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months.
g—dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence tax.

dividend declared after split-up or stock dividend.
 dividend paid this year, omitted, deferred, or no action taken at latest dividend meeting.

tokens of latest dividend meeting.
It - dividend declared or paid this year, on accumulative
issue with dividends in arrears.

n — new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begins with the start of trading.
nd — next day delivery.

P/E — price-earnings ratio.
r — dividend declared or paid in preceding 12 months, plus
stock dividend.

s — stock split? Dividend begins with date of split.
v — sales.
1 — dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, estimated

1 - dividend paid in stock in preceding 12 months, ex-cash value on ex-dividend or ex-distribution date.
u - new yearly high.
v - dividend payout.

v — trading halted.
vi — in bankruptcy or receivership or being reorganized under the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such company.

wd — when distributed.
wi — when issued.

wi — when issued.
wr — with warrants.
x — ex-dividend or ex-rights.

x — ex-voided or ex-tents.
xx — ex-distribution.
xw — without warrants.
xn — distribution under law.

y—ex-dividend and sales in full.
yld—yield.
z—sales in full.

1,2—sales in full

SPORTS

Master of the Slalom Slopes, Tomba Has Eye on Hollywood

By Christopher Clarey
New York Times Service

VIGO DI FASSA, Italy — The young husky, as white as the snow on the peaks of the surrounding Dolomites, romped through the lobby of the hotel, wagging its tail at well-heeled guests.

In most five-star establishments, this would have been cause for considerable alarm, but here at the Hotel Corona, there were only benevolent smiles. This husky belonged to Alberto Tomba, and just like its popular master, Yukon, had been given the run of the place.

"This is Signor Tomba's second home," said a concierge, with just the right measure of reverence in her voice. "Yukon! Like the river in Alaska," bellowed Tomba, stroking the husky's abetter coat and basking in the afterglow of a quiet dinner spent in the company of friends, his cellular phone and his girlfriend, Martina Colombari.

Tomba has indeed mellowed over the years. He no longer frequents the liveliest watering holes with his former regularity ("Four girls is too much for me now; two girls is O.K.," he joked), but he remains skiing's foremost personality and surely one of the few athletes in any sport who would choose to start an interview at 11 P.M.

Tomba has trained with varying degrees of diligence for several years in this well-touristed stretch of the Italian Alps, hitting the slopes in the not-too-early morning with his private six-man entourage, including his coach, Gustavo Thoeni, an Italian skiing legend in his own right who personally lays out the practice courses.

"Ski training is not always like a Sunday," said Thoeni, a former Olympic and world champion. "But with Alberto, we are maybe more Sunday's with anyone else."

On late, Team Tomba has been particularly upbeat. Tomba himself, fresh and trim after a revamped off-season that included fewer but more intense workouts, has been brilliant in the early going.

Of the 10 races in which he has competed, the Italian has won seven, sweeping all five slaloms, including one in Lech, Austria, in which he nearly had to stop in midrun to avoid missing a gate. He also won his first giant slalom in more than two years, in nearby Alta Badia in December, then won another in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, on Friday, which was followed by Sunday's slalom triumph.

That gave him 40 in World Cup competition, and tied him with Pirmin Zurbriggen for third place on the all-time victory list.

It also gave Tomba a commanding lead in this season's overall standings, not to mention a serious boost to a World Cup circuit that had to reshuffle its way through a disastrously temperate December.

"Tomba brings the sponsors, the media and the crowds," said Gianni Poncet, sports director

at Sestriere. "Of course we hope he continues."

Tomba does not dismiss the idea altogether, but despite his marvelous start this season and the rich financial rewards he reaps from skiing, he is clearly pessimistic.

"Almost for sure I won't ski the 1995-96 season," he said. "Maybe I will stop for one year. I need to relax and quiet in '95-

'96, then train again for '96-'97.

But I know it's very difficult to start over again."

In fact, the longer you talk to Tomba the wearier he sounds with his sport and the more disillusioned he sounds with fame and its inevitable by-products.

"I changed my life two or three years ago because I don't like to go out to a disco or stay out too late," he said. "I have

my friends, but they are coming to find me. I don't like many people and crowds all the time. Six years ago, it was good, it was like a joke. But now it's like a job, and I've had enough. It's too much."

Alberto please, give me an autograph. Alberto, please take my picture with you, take a picture, take a picture."

"Hero in Italy, it's too difficult for me because I am alone," Tomba continued. "For the soccer player, it's different. There are 11 guys, but nobody helps me in skiing. Eight years ago and in Calgary, it was normal. I won, but the pressure was like 60 percent of what it is now. People just want more and more. In Italy, the press, they live for one thing, my private life, my story. I don't like it."

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Whatever the explanation, the results represent quite a statement from a skier who usually saves his best for Olympic years. And therein lies a question: Just why is Tomba, winner of three Olympic golds and two silvers in three Winter Games, still putting his free spirit and sturdy physique through the rigors of training and competition when he has no intention of barreling on toward the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan?

"I'm skiing this year for my father and for my manager, Paolo Cornelli," Tomba said. "At the end of last season, I told them: 'I can't ski anymore because my objective was the last Olympics in Lillehammer. So stop, please!'

"But they said, 'Please Alberto, one more year.' My father thought I was strong enough to go on because I won four times in the World Cup last year and got second in Olympic Games. So I'm doing it for them, for the sponsors, for the Italian people and I don't know who else."

Merrily negotiating his way through the obstacle course of English as a second language, Tomba, whose fans call him "Tomba la bomba," soon got around to mentioning one more reason: the world skiing championships to be held in early February in Sierra Nevada, Spain.

For all his capacity to rise to the occasion at the Olympics, Tomba often has been a different sort of "la bomba" at the world championships.

He has competed four times in the biennial competition and has won only one medal: a bronze in the giant slalom at the 1987 championships in Crans-Montana, Switzerland. In 1989 and 1991, falls and errors wiped out his medal chances. In 1993 in Morioka, Japan, he saw more of his hotel room than the slopes after catching the flu.

"Nothing, nothing and more nothing," Tomba said. "I need luck for the world championships. I have enough for the Olympics but maybe not enough for the worlds."

Many in the ski industry are clinging fervently to the hope that Tomba, the sport's only legitimate superstar, will keep trying his luck until 1997, when the world championships will be hosted by Tomba's favorite Italian resort, Sestriere, where he has won six times, most recently in December in the first night race in World Cup history.

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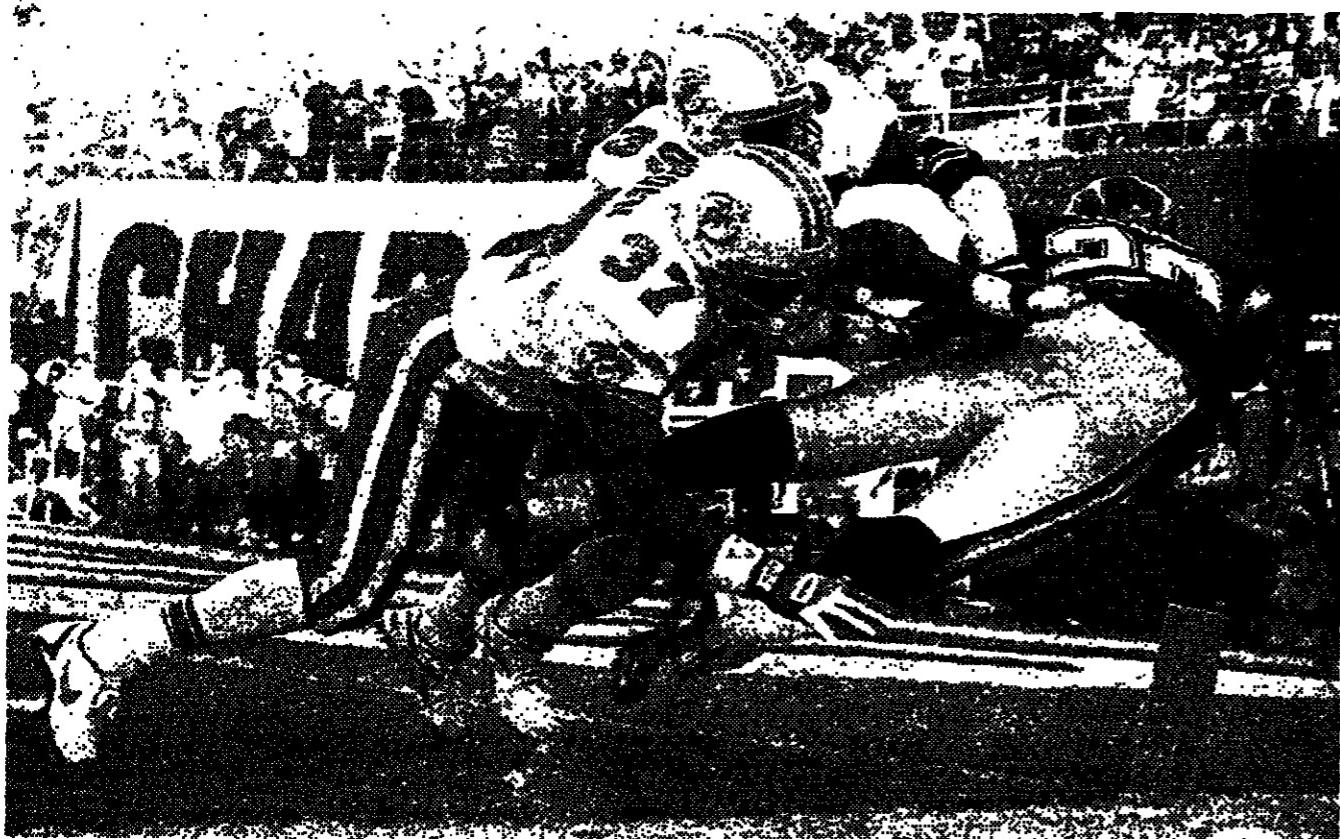
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SPORTS



The Chargers' Natrone Means diving in for the third-quarter touchdown that, replays showed, should not have counted.

Cowboys, If Maybe Not Smith, Are Ready for 49ers

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

IRVING, Texas — With the intensity and efficiency of champions, the Dallas Cowboys fulfilled their end of the NFC playoff bargain by easily beating the Green Bay Packers, 35-9. Now comes the hard part. The Cowboys must play the more formidable San Francisco 49ers in next Sunday's conference championship game at Candlestick Park. And the Cowboys might have to play without star running back Emmitt Smith, who rejuvinated his sore left hamstring late in the first quarter.

"There's no question Emmitt won't be well by next Sunday," said the Cowboys' trainer, Kevin O'Neill. "He had three

weeks to get ready for this game and he wasn't well."

"I always feel good about my chances," said Smith, who has missed only one game because of injury during his five-year NFL career. But that game was this year's regular season finale, which followed the Dec. 19 contest in which he pulled the hamstring.

"We'll go ahead and treat it as if I'm going to play," Smith said. "I'll prepare myself as if I'm going to play. Come game day, if it is feeling much better, I will play. I will go on the field one way or another."

"It didn't feel as bad as it did when I hurt it in New Orleans," he added. "That's a good sign. I

felt a twinge. I feel very good about my chances."

Despite Smith's injury, teammate Charles Haley said it is the Cowboys' "destiny" to win a unprecedented third consecutive Super Bowl and the rest of the team was equally confident,

given the injuries, controversies and pressure it has dealt with all this season.

"This is the one that really counts," their coach, Barry Switzer, said of the encounter with the 49ers. "This is our opportunity to give it our best shot, since we didn't do it last time."

The 49ers beat the Cowboys, 21-14, on Nov. 13 in Candlestick. The winner of Sunday's game advances to the Super Bowl against the American

Football Conference champion, either Pittsburgh or San Diego. Many fans view the Dallas-San Francisco encounter as the most exciting matchup.

The Cowboys looked almost unbeatable against the Packers. And the way their offensive line was opening holes, just about anyone could have been carrying the ball.

Dallas opened with an impressive display of offense, defense and special teams, all choreographed to perfection. By the end of the first quarter the Cowboys had 191 yards of offense to Green Bay's 64.

Quarterback Troy Aikman — who had all day to throw and was as sharp as he has been all season — found wide receiver

Chargers Survive Wild AFC Game When the Dolphins' Kicker Misses

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SAN DIEGO, California — In a week-end of National Football League playoff blowouts, the Miami Dolphins and the San Diego Chargers saved the best for last. Unfortunately for the Dolphins, their field goal kicker, Pete Stoyanovich, saved his worst for last.

Stoyanovich had succeeded on eight of 10 kicks from 40 to 49 yards this season, but his try from 48 yards with six seconds left fluttered far right. And the Dolphins lost a chance to play in the Super Bowl at home.

They had led in this game for all but the final 35 seconds. They were halfway home, half-way to Super Bowl XXIX. And then lightning struck, a big blue bolt of a touch-down pass from Stan Humphries to Mark Seay for 8 yards and the extra point just before Stoyanovich missed.

It proved the difference, a 22-21 victory for San Diego before 63,381 fans, the largest crowd ever at Jack Murphy Stadium. And it likely was the happiest one ever.

"We saw it going to the right and looked at each other and there wasn't anything to say," said the holder, John Kidd, who once played for the Chargers. "The season was over."

"I thought we were dead, even after we scored," said the Chargers' coach, Bobby Ross said.

Stoyanovich didn't meet with reporters. The Chargers were one very lucky team.

They survived three turnovers (the Dolphins had none). They survived 67 yards worth of penalties. They survived one passing attempt after another by Dan Marino. They survived their own early ineptitude near the end zone.

Still, they will be playing in Pittsburgh next weekend, and hoping for more luck. That will be the American Conference championship game, with the winner gaining a berth in the Super Bowl on Jan. 29 in Miami's Joe Robbie Stadium.

Oh, how the Dolphins planned to be there.

But the Chargers, with 3:16 left, were down by 21-15 and began a drive at their 39. At the Miami 8, after an afternoon of futility inside the Miami 20, the Chargers called what may have been their most creative play of the season.

Seay lined up left, ran in motion right, ran back left and then turned around at the snap and sneaked in behind the Chargers'

offensive linemen. As he slipped across the middle and toward the right flat, the Dolphins' defense completely lost him. Humphries tossed the ball to him. Seay held on and with the extra point, San Diego had the lead with 35 seconds to go.

It appeared over but it wasn't. The Dolphins, behind Marino and with the help of a 32-yard pass-interference call against safety Eric Castle, moved to the San Diego 30. Two incomplete passes later, six seconds were left. In came Stoyanovich, one of the league's all-time most accurate and longest kickers. But a high snap seemed to throw off his timing, and Stoyanovich missed.

"That's about as tough a loss as I've ever been around," said the Dolphins' coach, Don Shula. "To see a team play as well as we played in the first half ... and then have it come apart the way it did in the second half is a bitter disappointment."

The Dolphins, bolstered by three goal-line stands, had led by 21-6 at halftime. But they had the ball for only 7 minutes, 22 seconds in the second half, and did not score.

"We didn't make any plays in the second half," Marino said. "We didn't seem like we were running the ball so well so we decided to throw."

They rushed for only 26 yards in the game and had 282 total yards, both season lows. The Chargers had a season-high 466 yards.

The Chargers' Natrone Means gained a career-high 139 yards on 24 carries with one TD for the game. Humphries was 28-of-43 for 276 yards and one touchdown, with two interceptions; Marino was 24-of-38 for 262 yards with no interceptions and one sack. His TD passes, of 8 and 9 yards to tight end Keith Jackson and one of 16 yards to Mike Williams, had made it Miami's game the first half.

But down by the 15 points starting the third quarter, the Chargers rallied by scoring nine that period. Following a safety by the defense, they finally got a touchdown instead of a field goal once deep inside Miami territory, and it came on a controversial play.

Means was credited with a 24-yard scoring run with 2:42 left in the quarter when replays showed he had gone out of bounds at the Miami 2, and when he may not have crossed the ball over the goal line.

No matter. It counted because the officials said so and Means could not be faulted for the effort. With tackle Eric Jonassen pulling left to right and leading the way with power blocks, Means did the rest, lowering his shoulder and fighting for the score.

"To go out there and not go as far as two years ago would mean we haven't grown as a football team," said Humphries, referring to an embarrassing 31-0 playoff loss at Miami two seasons ago in which he threw four interceptions. "No one expected us to be here."

(NYT, AP)

SIDELINES

European Basketball Tourney Draw

ATHENS (Reuters) — The draw, made Monday, for the men's European basketball championship, to be played in Athens on June 21-July 2: Group A — Sweden, Greece, Italy, Germany, Lithuania, Israel, Country X. Group B — Croatia, Spain, France, Russia, Finland, Slovenia, Country Y.

Teams of each group will play each other in a round-robin tournament, with the four best qualifying for the quarterfinals on June 29. Semifinals are on June 30 and the final is on July 2.

Countries X and Y will qualify from a round-robin tournament on May 31-June 4 involving Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Estonia, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Baltimore Group Bids for NFL Bucs

BALTIMORE (AP) — An investment group led by the Baltimore Orioles' owner, Peter Angelos, has offered more than \$200 million for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers with the intention of bringing the NFL team to Baltimore. The (Baltimore) Sun reported.

The St. Petersburg Times reported that the trustees had already decided to sell the team to a group led by Tom Shannon, a Tampa developer. That group's bid is reportedly in the \$145 million to \$165 million range, but the trustees were concerned that the NFL would not approve Angelos' moving the team, the Times reported.

For the Record

Chuck Knox was fired a coach of the Los Angeles Rams, while Ki-Jana Carter, the Penn State tailback who was the Heisman Trophy runner-up, said he would waive his fifth year of eligibility and enter the NFL draft.

A Beijing-to-Paris rally for vintage cars in October 1997, a rerun of the world's first trans-continental motor race 90 years ago, has been approved by the Chinese government, Britain's Classic Rally Association said.

Muller, 26, the Brazilian international who vetoed a move to the English club Everton, has signed with Japan's Kashima Reysol for an estimated annual salary of \$1.1 million.

Sampras Seeks Changes In Never-Ending Sport

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE — Pete Sampras, the world's top-ranked tennis player, called Monday for sweeping changes in his sport, with a designated off-season, a refined computer ranking system and the reinstatement of the 25-second rule between points.

The 23-year-old American, who is in Melbourne preparing for the Australian Open, said the tennis season should be shortened, with fewer events, to allow players time to rest and recuperate. He said he would play fewer tournaments this year after over-committing himself in 1994.

"There really is no off-season in tennis like there is in other sports," Sampras said. In American "football and baseball players have about three or four months off. Tennis is a perpetual; it doesn't really end."

"There are too many events on the tour right now," he added. "I'm scheduled to play 20 events and that's why I'm not playing Davis Cup in the first and the second is still in the air. It's because I need that rest after a major event."

"I like playing a lot but with Davis Cup and the two weeks of major titles it's a lot of tennis and I'm scheduling more rest between tournaments."

The present ranking system, he said, compels players to play week after week to protect their points.

The ATP Tour, in a bid this season to speed up the game, has reduced from 25 seconds to 20 the time allowed between points. Sampras said that what was needed was a more stringent policing of the rule.

"They have made this rule up on their own, and not asked me or any of the top guys what they think about it," he said. "They should keep the 25 seconds but enforce it. The 20-second rule in this heat and long matches isn't really a lot of time."

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 14 Gardner of "Mogambo"
- 15 "Le — de Monie Cristo"
- 16 Napoleon's force
- 17 Coastal area
- 18 Unyielding
- 19 Driver's need
- 20 Town official
- 21 Closes the soap out
- 22 Investigated, with "about"
- 23 No-coffeine drink
- 24 Part of Q.E.D.
- 25 — capita
- 26 Had a bantering
- 27 Anger
- 28 Barber's action
- 29 Stars and Bars units
- 30 Command breaker
- 31 Batman, the Joker
- 32 Astronomer Carl
- 33 — and rejoice": Psalms
- 34 Under, in verse
- 35 Largest newspaper in Calif.
- 36 Became less clear
- 37 Chilean port
- 38 Major pipe
- 39 Family car
- 40 "Hard —!" (nautical command)
- 41 M. Gershwin
- 42 Idiotic spots
- 43 Legal wrongs
- 44 " — Miz."

DOWN

1 Pro —

2 Eager

3 Zeta, to Zapeta

4 Like Lahr's lion

5 Midas

6 Dull finishes

7 Word before more and merrier

8 Jazzyman Hines

9 Tylenol alternative

10 Income

11 Watch's center

12 Clear the state

13 Workers of puzzlement

18 Host

20 Worth and Castle

21 Give new job skills

22 Small drunks

23 Augury

25 Full moon occurrence

26 Ryan's Express

27 Leave the union

28 Space

29 Slender-billed sea bird

30 Palm Sunday mount

31 Warps

32 Big-billed sea bird

33 Biblical prophet

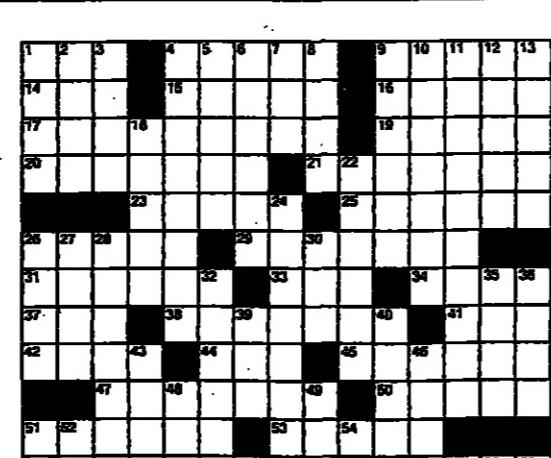
34 Marseilles, in geometry

35 World-weary

36 Like many seals

37 On the qui vive

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Solution to Puzzle of Jan. 9

MASH	SHAW	SHOES
OTTO	TATE	AORTA
THEY	LIVED	FAIRY
HOLIER	DEERED	MERGES
SEEN	TAR	
WASKED	COAL	
SPA	ASCOI	SABRA
TOGETHER	HAPPILY	
ARENA	NEEDS	BOS
REED	PEARLER	
WAS	AWED	
SNOWED	APPRAISED	
TALES	EVERAFTER	
ATLILT	RENE	TORE
BOOTS	ARTY	SPEED

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ART BUCHWALD

Inside the Beltway

WASHINGTON — The Capital Beltway is not only a highway to accommodate bumper-to-bumper traffic, it has also become a metaphor for what is wrong with the United States.

Every politician running for office blames our troubles on the people "inside the Beltway." Almost everyone who won a national election this year campaigned against the Washington insiders who had no idea what "real" Americans wanted.

But now the day of reckoning is here. The elected who have come to Washington must sit inside the Beltway and write the laws of the nation.

I was driving along near Exit 33 when I came across an incredible scene. Two federal marshals were holding a handcuffed man by his arms, trying to shove him into an unmarked sedan.

"What's up, officer?" I inquired.

One of the marshals said, "This is a newly elected congressman and he refuses to go inside the Beltway."

The congressman was blushing. "Please don't make me go in there. They'll eat me alive. I'll burn in hell. They'll plunge daggers in my back." He tried to run, but the marshals held him tight.

Comédie-Française Reopens

Agence France-Presse

PARIS — The Comédie-Française is to reopen this week after eight months of renovation work. The 900-seat theater reopens with Feydeau's "Oscu-



Buchwald

"It's not that bad," I told him. "Some people live very comfortably inside the Beltway. We have electricity and telephones and even indoor plumbing."

The man was completely distraught. "I campaigned against those inside the Beltway — the bureaucrats and the big spenders who don't give a hoot about the little man. If I go in there now, they'll tar and feather me."

"People inside the Beltway don't hold grudges except against the Washington Redskins. I doubt if anyone remembers what you said about us during your election cam-

pa-

He tried to escape again. "I'm going home to be with normal folks, and I'll vote there," the man said.

"You can't do that. The Constitution states clearly that a congressman must cast his ballot inside the Beltway for any legislation to become the law of the land. I've seen people like you come to this town afraid of their own shadow and in less than six months they're driving around Washington as if they owned it."

The congressman said, "If I go inside, will I be blamed for the deficit?"

"Of course not. Hillary Clinton is solely responsible for that, and Chelsea is to blame for all the money being wasted on our military cost overruns. If your middle-class constituents won't buy that, you can always offer them a tax cut."

□

The federal marshal said, "Come on, sir. They're waiting for you to make a quorum."

The congressman got into the vehicle reluctantly.

"If I'm going to take my seat in Congress, I want an air bag to go with it."

WEATHER

Europe									
Today	High	Low	W	Today	High	Low	W	Today	High
High	Low	W	High	Low	High	Low	W	High	Low
OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF	OF
Paris	74°	54°	W	74°	54°	W	OF	74°	54°
Amsterdam	68°	51°	W	68°	51°	W	OF	68°	51°
Athens	30°	17°	S	30°	17°	S	OF	30°	17°
Berlin	32°	20°	N	32°	20°	N	OF	32°	20°
Berlin	32°	20°	N	32°	20°	N	OF	32°	20°
Berlin	32°	20°	N	32°	20°	N	OF	32°	20°
Copenhagen	23°	15°	S	23°	15°	S	OF	23°	15°
Copenhagen	23°	15°	S	23°	15°	S	OF	23°	15°
Dublin	54°	37°	S	54°	37°	S	OF	54°	37°
Dublin	54°	37°	S	54°	37°	S	OF	54°	37°
Edinburgh	74°	57°	S	74°	57°	S	OF	74°	57°
Florance	72°	52°	S	72°	52°	S	OF	72°	52°
Geneva	72°	52°	S	72°	52°	S	OF	72°	52°
Helsinki	10°	1°	S	10°	1°	S	OF	10°	1°
Lisbon	22°	13°	S	22°	13°	S	OF	22°	13°
London	14°	7°	S	14°	7°	S	OF	14°	7°
Madrid	9°	2°	S	9°	2°	S	OF	9°	2°
Milan	42°	31°	S	42°	31°	S	OF	42°	31°
Moscow	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Munich	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Paris	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Rome	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Stockholm	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Stockholm	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Strasbourg	10°	0°	S	10°	0°	S	OF	10°	0°
Turin	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Venice	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Venice	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Vienna	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Vienna	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Zurich	12°	1°	S	12°	1°	S	OF	12°	1°
Oceania									
Today	High	Low	W	Tomorrow	High	Low	W	Today	High
22/11	15/69	pc	23/73	15/69	pc	23/73	pc	22/11	15/69
Sydney	29/68	19/68	pc	31/68	21/70	4	pc	29/68	19/68

North America

Europe

Asia

Africa

North America

Latin America

Middle East

Oceania

Legend:

sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, n-light rain, r-rain, s-snow, f-freezing rain, OF-official forecast

Source: Accu-Weather, Inc.

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Map: Accu-Weather, Inc.

Graphic: Accu-Weather, Inc.

Photo: Accu-Weather, Inc.

Graphic: Accu-Weather, Inc.